

November 6, 1956

Library of Congress
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I would like to have a photostat or microfilm of a Broadside printed in Philadelphia in 1743. The Broadside is possibly listed under the name Dick Farmer or Farmer Dick, which is a pseudonym.

The text begins: "Whereas, great quantities of English copper halfpence have been lately imported into the province by the merchants ***".

Would you be kind enough to locate this item and let me know the cost of obtaining a duplicate so that I may send you the proper amount.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

November 9, 1956

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT
RARE BOOKS DIVISION

Dear Mr. Newman:

In reply to your letter of November 6, the Library of Congress does not possess a copy of the broadside, printed in Philadelphia in 1743, which is listed under the name of Farmer Dick. This is, however, described in Charles Evans American Bibliography by number 5178, but he furnishes no location.

We, therefore, suggest that you write to Mr. Clifford K. Shipton, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts. He is engaged in preparing the microcard edition of all Evans titles, and he may, for that reason, have been successful in locating a copy of the broadside in which you are interested.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Frederick R. Goff".

Frederick R. Goff
Chief
Rare Books Division

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
Executive Offices
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

November 14, 1956

Mr. Edwin Wolf, II,
Serpentine Lane
Wyncote, Pennsylvania

Dear Ed:

Whether or not you remember me is immaterial as I was only at Kennebec for one year when we were slightly more youthful. Recently, when Betty and Hazel Moos visited St. Louis in connection with Camp Accomac, they insisted that I get in touch with you in view of the fact that a substantial part of my time is devoted to research and writing on early American history relative to coins and currency.

It so happens that I do need a photostat of an item which I believe you have control over and would appreciate it if you would order it for me and let me know the cost. It is a broadside, printed in Philadelphia in 1743, by William Bradford, signed by Farmer Dick (pseudonym), beginning with the words: "Whereas, great quantities of English copper halfpence have been lately imported into the province by the merchants ***". It is listed as belonging to the Library Company of Philadelphia in Hildeburn, Vol. 1, page 189.

Although you may have no particular interest in numismatics or numismatic history, I feel as though I should tell you what I am doing. For about 30 years I did nothing but collect coins and currency of America, specializing in Colonial material. Then I began to work up small articles and give talks. This winter there will be published by the American Numismatic Society, a monograph on Coinage for Colonial Virginia. Next month there will be published, as part of the magazine, The Numismatist, a number devoted entirely to Benjamin Franklin and I will have two articles in that on Franklin's contributions to numismatics. This January there will be published an article on Counterfeiting by the British of the Continental Currency as a means of defeating us in the Revolutionary War. My present project, however, is to write up the unauthorized copper currencies circulated in America prior to the American Revolution.

Please give my very best to Hazel and Betty if you see either of them. They certainly are proud of the work that you are

-2-

Mr. Edwin Wolf, II

November 14, 1956

doing and when you have a vocation and an avocation that is one, you are most fortunate.

My very best wishes, after 30 years.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN

Founded 1731



The Library Company of Philadelphia

Broad and Christian Streets, *Philadelphia 47, Pennsylvania*

November 19, 1956

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric:

I am delighted that the girls told you of our sympathy of interests. We shall be glad to have the photostats made for you. The broadside will have to be sent to the Historical Society and they will ship and bill you direct.

I should be very much interested in having a copy of the magazine, *The Numismatist*, devoted to Franklin. Have you in your researches found out where he got the idea of printing a leaf on the back of his bills? I would be interested to know if any precedent for that existed before Franklin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'EW' followed by a flourish.

Edwin Wolf, 2nd
Librarian

EW:mp

December 11, 1956

Mr. Edwin Wolf, II, Librarian
Library Company of Philadelphia
Broad and Christian Streets
Philadelphia 47, Pennsylvania

Dear Edwin:

I waited to answer your letter of November 19, 1956, until the Franklin Issue of the Numismatist was published and under separate cover I am forwarding the same to you.

You will note, on page 1353, a reference to the purchase by Dr. Rosenbach of a group of Franklin medals from Thomas Elder in 1929.

In answer to your inquiry concerning the printing of a leaf on the back of paper money printed by Franklin, I first refer you to the article beginning on page 1357. I presume you are aware that Franklin secured the contracts to print both the New Jersey and the Pennsylvania paper money about the same time. All denominations of the New Jersey paper money had one particular leaf. In Pennsylvania a separate leaf design was made for each specimen. It is entirely possible that Franklin did these particular leaf designs. The paper money of both New Jersey and Pennsylvania had theretofore been engraved on copper plates and both states had their paper money counterfeited. When the new issues of paper money were planned it was therefore of great importance to endeavor to produce an item which would be more difficult to counterfeit. For that reason I imagine Franklin selected the leaf designs. I am having the botanist at the Shaw's Garden, in St. Louis, identify all of the leaves on the various Pennsylvania as well as Continental bills in my collection. If this proves interesting I will try to obtain all of the leaf designs which were used on money printed by Franklin. I believe that research has already been undertaken to prove that these particular cuts were not made for any book or publication and that they were specifically for paper money. As you know, the Delaware paper money which Franklin printed did not have leaf designs.

If you have any information on this subject I will be very pleased to work on it. In any event I think we are correct in assuming that the idea of the leaf design was originated by Franklin as a means of making counterfeiting most difficult.

-2-

Mr. Edwin Wolf, II

December 11, 1956

My fifteen-year-old daughter is planning to visit Philadelphia this Christmas and will be with the daughter of Leon Meltzer.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

P. S. I have never received the photostat from the Historical Society of the Farmer Dick broadside you were ordering for me and presume it will be forthcoming in due course.

E.P.N.

December 18, 1956

Library Company of Philadelphia
Broad and Christian Streets
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

I am very anxious to read a substantial number of issues of The Complete Counting House Companion which was published from 1785 to 1790 as a supplement to the Pennsylvania Evening Herald. I note that various copies are available, principally in the Library of Congress and at the American Antiquarian Society in accordance with Brigham's Bibliography.

I was wondering if it was possible, since you have the Pennsylvania Evening Herald, that you might have these supplements also.

It also occurred to me that a microfilm might have been made covering these supplements. Would you, therefore, be kind enough to let me know any facts you have on this matter, in addition to what is in the bibliography.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1300 LOCUST STREET, PHILADELPHIA 7, PA.

Name Library CompanyOrder No. 5974

Address

Department O.V.Date December 18, 1956

It is agreed that this order is accepted by The Historical Society upon the express condition that right to reproduce the material herein listed be secured from the Director of The Society, applied for and granted in writing. The undersigned assumes all responsibility and liability as to copyright question arising from the granting of such rights.

Payment must accompany the order.

The reproducing of material, other than in The Society's collections, will be done only as an accommodation for museums, libraries, patriotic and historical societies and, in case of an individual, only if the material is of value to add to The Society's collections, in which case a copy will be retained. The Society, while exercising all reasonable care, assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to the originals.

Signature

ORDER

Negative Photostat

5331.F.11

Supplied Broadside entitled "Whereas Great Quantities
....signed Farmer Dick.

Send Bill & Photostat to

Mr. Eric P. Newman
c/o Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Ave.,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Photostats

NEG.	POS.	SIZE	COST
1		11 X 18	\$.50
		18 X 22	

Photographs

Microfilm

	\$
Less Discount	
	\$
Service Charge	
Total	\$.50

Mail..... Hold.....

Received Payment.....

Date.....

PHOTO-DUPLICATION DEPARTMENT

Order filled by M.Date Dec. 21, 1956

Mailed - Dec. 26 -

12/15/56

Founded 1731



The Library Company of Philadelphia

Broad and Christian Streets, Philadelphia 47, Pennsylvania

January 2, 1957

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

We have only a few scattered issues of the "Complete Counting House Companion." I have inquired and do not find that there is a set on micro-film, but I am sure that if you write to the American Antiquarian Society or the Library of Congress they would be willing to supply one for you. I can add nothing by way of information to the entry in Brigham.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edwin", written in a cursive style.

Edwin Wolf, 2nd
Librarian

EW:mp

January 25, 1957

Mr. Dick Hooper
1629 Race Street
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Hooper:

I received the notes you sent on approval and because I had all of them I let a friend of mine, here in St. Louis, buy a few. Returns from him will be delayed a few days as he is out of town but I did not wish to delay in writing you.

Please feel free to send as many Colonial notes as you wish as I hope I can find some I do not have. The \$4 counterfeit Continental bill, identical to yours, will be described in the February Numismatist.

With respect to the problem I gave you on dating the Pennsylvania broadside, I wish to give you a few additional facts which I discovered. The merchants of Philadelphia agreed to take Newcastle and Lower counties paper money at par in December, 1723 (History of Philadelphia by J. T. Scharf and T. Westcott, Vol. 3, page 2085). Delaware just put out its paper money in 1723. Apparently the refusal of people to take the bills must have been about 1729 when the bills expired. 1729, plus 12 years, dates this broadside about 1741 which conforms to the logic deduced from Crosby's Jan 18, 1741 ruling.

I hope the foregoing will help you solve my riddle.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

June 8, 1959

State Historical Society of Wisconsin
816 State Street
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Gentlemen:

Through the Missouri Historical Society I have borrowed certain microfilm from you and merely wish to take this opportunity to thank you for complying with that request. It would aid historical research materially if all institutions would lend microfilm in the manner which you do.

I merely want you to know how appreciative I am.

Cordially yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

THE LIBRARY COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA 20 FOUNDED 1731

1314 LOCUST STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19107

October 21, 1968

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

The agreement to accept Delaware money at par was made in 1726, American Weekly Mercury October 13, 1726. This would make the date of the broadside about 1738. I have looked through the acts of the Assembly and find much about paper currency and the value of gold and silver coins in 1737-38, but there is nothing about coppers. I hope this is helpful.

Sincerely,

Ed

Edwin Wolf, 2nd
Librarian

EW:slc

See also
Amer Weekly Mercury
Oct 20, 1726
Oct 27, 1726

Miss Dorothy A. Brockhoff
Reference Librarian
Missouri Historical Society
Lindell at DeBaliviere
St. Louis 12, Missouri

Inter-library Loan

En Mrs.
Newman

THE LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
COLUMBIA

Mrs. Newman

5/20/59

In response to your request, we are glad to send you today by
~~express~~
mail the books listed below. They should be returned
prepaid not later than..... June 8..... Please use the return
label sent to you with the books. and remit postage.

Pennsylvania Gazette, June 6, 1781 - Dec. 30, 1789.
3 reels.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

October 24, 1968

Mr. Edwin Wolf, 2nd
The Library Company of Philadelphia
1314 Locust Street
Philadelphia, Penns. 19107

Dear Ed:

I am grateful for your information on the acceptance of Delaware money.

Apparently the Assembly ^{at that time} did not take any action on the matter of coppers, the only official position being that of an ordinance of the City of Philadelphia passed June 18, 1741. At that time there was a riot which was reported on page 73 of Franklin's "General Magazine and Historical Chronicle".

You have been very helpful and I sincerely appreciate it.

Sincerely,



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

1/2 Newport place
Box 101
May 1918

Foreign Intelligence.

L O N D O N, April 11.

THE Dutch still remain in their irresolute state. Party quarrels between the Magistrates, burgeses and patriots, distract every town and village. The mediators stand aloof, and the Stadholder lives as happily as a private gentleman can do, surrounded by a few guards, and in a place where he is popular; while every insult is offered to him in the other provinces, and faction universally prevails.

The report of the *super-marriage* of a certain great Potentate has died away like the dubious one of a *Potentate that may be* (Prince of Wales); but the silence in the former is differently accounted for, as it is said that a menace was made to all courtiers there, that, if they were found to trouble themselves with any mysteries, save those of religion, they would be considered as insane, and confined for life.

An account of the loss of the *CALONNE*, East-Indiaman, as transmitted by Mr. Henderson, passenger. Dated 2d March, at Lisbon.

ON the 29th of January, the hook of the helm gave way; we were then a degree to the northward of the island of Maria, one of the western islands. As no remedy could be got to repair the helm, we tried to bear away to Cadix, but two days after the wind proved favourable for Lisbon, to which port we directed our course, hoisted our helm on deck, and fixed it with three hawsers; but before it was put over, tried to steer the ship with masts stern, but it would not do. On the 6th of February, put the helm over, and got the hawsers in through the ports, and to fix the helm, as to steer on the deck, the round-house being cut away for that purpose; and answered tolerably well, we still bearing away for Lisbon. There were several ships we tried to speak to, but they did not observe our signals. We experienced various distresses till the morning of the 12th, when we espied land to the leeward quarter, the sea running very high, with severe squalls of wind; we began to fire guns every ten minutes—lat. 38. 1. North, at half past twelve o'clock, saw land a-breast, and at two o'clock saw land a-head; we were driving fast to the shore, and found ourselves embayed. As the wind still continued a gale from the west, we had no resource but to our anchors, and every minute could observe we approached nearer to land; and when we saw the terrible surf on shore, and night coming on, we had little hopes of being saved. About five o'clock in the afternoon, we let go one anchor in 32 fathom water; at a quarter past five let go the second anchor, but that did not bring her head to the wind; about a quarter before six we let go the third anchor, and brought her head round, but could not hold her; we then began to cut away her mizen, and then the main-mast, but as it went over, she struck the most tremendous surf, which cleared the decks of every thing first and second captain's boats, &c. all the cabins got full of water, three gentlemen, passengers, with a lady and two children, immediately got on deck, and sat down to leeward, where the surf was every moment washing over us, and we were begging and praying of the inferior officers and seamen to make some raft, but sorry we were to find all command was gone—they went below drinking, and immediately began to break open the passengers trunks, as they lay nearest to their hand, in the great cabin. There were only the passengers and the surgeon on the ship on deck, waiting, and expecting every moment to be our last; we found no assistance would be given us by the seamen.

At half past eight o'clock, we observed, at the returning of the tide, we could almost jump on the sandy beach, which Lieutenant Porter tried, and got safe on shore: what that was known, many of the seamen attempted it, but several were lost, from the terrible suction of the sand and water. The ship then parted between the main and fore-mast, and the only place of safety was the quarter deck. At ten o'clock all were safely on shore, excepting those who were lost in attempting to jump on the sandy beach, and a black girl and two children, whom we ordered to remain on board, till such times as we could give them assistance. All the night we lay on the wet sand, and at day-break next morning, we happily effected their release. We then began to look for a house, but found none nearer than four miles. We were so worn out with cold, that it was with difficulty we reached the poor peasant's habitation. Many of the seamen now came up that had remained in the ship all night plundering, loaded with our money and cloaths; we begged of them to let us have some of our own things to put on but they would not give us a single shirt. They began to sell them to the country people, and we were almost naked. The first night we got to a priest's house, and after leaving the lady and children, returned to the wreck, where we found a shed, an hour after the children had got on shore, gone all to pieces, we now applied to a Justice to search the seamen, but they all having knives, he was afraid. However the next morning half of them went on for Lisbon, the Justice then took some of our cloaths from the rest, and we

proceeded on a bullock cart, to a village called Milides, where we wrote to the English Consul Mr. Williamson, who sent us every assistance; but before it arrived Mr. Charles Peasley had sent a clerk to us with money and cloaths, and desired that we might be conducted to his house at Lisbon, where we have been treated with the greatest humanity and politeness.

Persons saved from the *Calonne*.—Lieutenant Porter, Mr. Henderson, Mrs. Henderson, Miss Henderson, and a black girl, English passengers; Monsieur D'Erff, French passenger; Mr. Lebaun, Surgeon; Mr. Morris, Midshipman; and about 26 seamen.

Lost with the *Calonne*.—Mr. De Mullin, Captain; Mr. Bedal, Chief Mate; Mr. Roudie, Second Mate; Mr. Serguindt, Third Mate; Mr. Wallawah, Fourth Mate; Mr. Villiard, French passenger; Lieutenant Gilbert, English passenger from Bengal; three Midshipmen, and about 27 seamen.

American Intelligence.

B E R M U D A, May 26.

THE new schooner, Hope, John Tucker, master, which sailed from these islands the 31st of March, for Turk's islands and New-York, on the 10th of April arrived in lat. 21, 24 north, and long. 69, 30 west, and saw the Grand Key in the evening: The night proving equally and dark, they steered to the N. E. the greater part of it, and the next morning steering in S. and S. W. in hopes to make the same land again, but to their great surprise saw the Grand Caicos.—they immediately hauled their wind, and continued beating, but to no purpose, the weather very squally, and a strong current going to the westward. At 12 o'clock at night she struck on Phillips's reef, bilged and filled immediately. The master and crew got into the boat, and continued on the lee side of the wreck till day light, and then with great difficulty made the Grand Caicos, where they remained for four days, when they saw a brig at sea, made for her, and after rowing for seven hours, were kindly taken up and treated in the most humane manner possible. Isaac Williams, master of the brig Enterprize, from Middletown, bound to the Cape; she carried the schooner's crew eight of Turk's islands, when they took to their boat, and soon got to the Grand Key. The schooner was entirely lost. All that could be saved—the crew was a bag of bread, which they had to subsist on the four days.

Philadelphia, June 28.

Extract from *Hugh Gain's UNIVERSAL REGISTER*; or, *Columbian Kalendar*, for the year 1787:

Geographical account of the *United States*.

G E O R G I A.

"Louisville, the seat of Government; Savannah, the principal seaport and commercial town; Augusta, Washington, Greensborough and Waynesborough, are considerable inland towns; and Sunbury, Frederica, Brunswick and Hardwick, are seaport towns also, but there are no buildings yet erected in the two last mentioned seaport towns.

A correspondent informs us, that in a late regulation in New-York, coppers pass there at the rate of twenty-one for a shilling, Pennsylvania currency; in consequence of which it is said that very large quantities of that coin (the greater part of which are base) are about to be sent into this city, where they are received at fifteen for the shilling.—The manifest injustice and injury of this traffic to the fair dealer is hoped will operate as a caution against such imposition, and prevent the mischief before we are overwhelmed with that base metal.

After having thought much of the late Virginia paper, when treating of the ruinous consequences attending the commerce of the United States, as it has been carried on since the conclusion of the war) why the arms of peace do you countenance the follies of your late competitors, and hurry yourselves

into the depths of luxury and dissipation, repugnant to your health, your happiness and your honor! Despise their vices, but emulate their virtues.—They hold forth to your view a most useful example, and prove, to a certainty, the truth of my assertion, That our political existence rests wholly on ourselves, and not on the smiles of our enemies. If we chuse to be happy, to be so in our power; our internal resources are now fully sufficient, and, with a well-timed economy, superfluities would abound, and raise us to the level of the most exalted nations.—Why call we so loudly for commerce with foreigners? It is, most certainly, at present, quite opposite to our interest. Does it not determine the balance much against us, through every channel by which we pursue it? What then must be the consequence? Must it not inevitably either drain our country of specie, or to the amount of this ballance bring us yearly a debt? The terms upon which a country, in its infancy, must carry on a commercial intercourse with one long established, are not equal; since produce and manufactures bear so small a proportion to each other. Is the interest of foreigners to furnish us with fashions; but is our interest to follow them? Must it not eradicate the spirit of industry, frugality and economy, and hurry us into the opposite extremes—indolence, dissipation, and ruin? Does not every day's experience indisputably prove the insufficiency of our virtue to resist the bewitching temptation? I mean of foreign frippery. Why then do not we, with all our might, discourage this commerce with foreigners—the bane of our temporal happiness—the poison of our present well-being!

"If, instead of bewildering ourselves in the idle dreams of commerce, after our independency was fully effected, had we rejected her smiles, and wholly bent our thoughts to the encouragement of domestic manufactures, and the cultivation of the most useful arts and sciences, we should, no doubt, by this time, have been a rich, flourishing and respectable people; nay, by now adopting a similar policy, we could not fail of soon becoming such.—What but frugality, industry and emulation, can possibly be wanting, to effect our prosperity, and raise us to the summit of human greatness? Have we not a productive soil, and an almost unlimited extent of country, abounding in the luxuries of nature; that, were our connections with other nations, to be forever cut off, would supply us with every necessary! The luxuries of art, till they are the reward of our own labour, are highly pernicious, and destructive to our welfare. Were we a manufacturing people, nothing, according to what is generally understood by the common acceptance of the word, would be a luxury, or have in its use the same pernicious tendency, as the use of foreign superfluities must, at present, have with us. In manufacturing countries, the middle and lower classes of people, are chiefly employed or concerned therein; the promotion of luxury, excess and dissipation, therefore, is in them, perhaps good policy; at least national, as it only takes from the opulent, and relieves the needy. But to encourage the use of foreign luxuries with us, woeful experience, I should think, had sufficiently convinced us, would not be so friendly; but, as the most rapacious peculator, would plunder without mercy, and deal out a general devallation."

The Independent Gazetteer
Philadelphia, June 28, 1787

MR. OSWALD,

Please insert in your truly impartial Paper, the following, and oblige a friend and subscriber.

To Mr. "FACT."

SIR,

IF you had confined your observations to the characters of the Gentlemen, whom you supposed were the authors of the paragraph in *Brown's* paper of the 20th instant, you would have only those to contend with; and as you professed a relation of fact, you should have strictly adhered to a true one. It is generally supposed, that in your description of the person in Chestnut-street, as "principal secretary to a society founded on the most villainous principles;"—you mean the society for the relief of free negroes unlawfully held in slavery; not that any consciousness the members have of their motives, makes them apply this epithet to their institution, or a readiness, like your own, to conceive every villainous institution intended for themselves, but merely because it is public notoriety, that the Gentleman alluded to, was once the principal secretary, and not of any other society they have heard of.—The truth is, this society is founded on the principles of several laws of this state; the first of which has been extolled in *Europe* and *America* for its justice, and the divine and eloquent truth in its preamble.

That Gentleman having attempted several means of popularity without much success, had at length intrigue sufficient to be appointed its secretary—a transaction incompatible with that humanity professed by the members, was posted on the *Coffee-house* books, and reached their ears. A committee was appointed to enquire into the truth;—on their report, it was determined that he should be publicly expelled, unless he restored the unhappy blacks to their former situation; he complied, after some evasion and canting, at a very considerable expence, as it was said;—having disengaged himself from business, and entered on the walk of public life, the good opinion of this society was of too much importance to be lost, by a man whom you seem to think regardless of the opinion of people in general.

If their principles were villainous, he could derive no advantages from their good opinion, as you cannot suppose, Mr. FACT, that the people of Pennsylvania would, in that case, be misled by their patronage, or directed by their choice.—I sincerely hope you are not one of the agents in the business, which gave rise to the dispute referred to in your address—if you are, you are removed from that rank in the estimation of many, which, from your general conduct, I have always thought you deserved;—but rather one who has seized on the ill conduct of certain persons, to gratify a malice against a society which you dare not avow.—If you can prove your assertion, you will be wise to attempt it; if you cannot, contempt must be your portion. A Member of the Society for the relief of Free Negroes, unlawfully held in slavery.

July 29, 1789.

INTELLIGENCE EXTRAORDINARY.

A Correspondent informs us, that a mint will be established in this city by private persons chiefly for increasing the copper coin. The gentleman who is at the head of this project, is chagrined, that New-York should engross this beneficial business. He is determined, that Philadelphia shall have her share of glory and emolument in this particular. Conscious, that his gains as an imposter are trifling, he means to use all possible despatch in completing a project, which will make him easy in his circumstances, if not his conscience, and yield him wealth and consequence as a manufacturer; instead of that pitiful profit, which he now derives from importation. Notwithstanding the seeming obstruction thrown in his way by government, it is presumed,

that his unequalled genius will rise superior to their regulation; and that, should any attempt to stigmatize him as a swindler, the amazing power of his pen will enable him to defeat the intended effect of insolence and ignorance.

Messrs. PRINTERS,

I AM wonderfully pleased with the progress of government in the United States. Improvement of all kinds are my delight. And so in speech, I like any good language very well; for example, English, French, or Latin; but the beauty of the whole is, to mix two languages together. Now, PER GALLON, PER POUND, and a string of such phrases, are a feast to a man of taste. And the technical propriety of them! why a man could no more keep his accounts without them, than a lawyer could draw a good indictment for murder, without the word MURDRAVIT. I am charmed when a man tells me, the English has no word answering to PER, in such phrases; that is, our ancestors, poor souls, wanted proper words to express their ideas, till they became acquainted with Latin. It is true indeed, every body in common life uses A in the place of PER, as two shillings a pound; but this is abominably vulgar. And then our English grammarians have never told us that A in this phrase is a preposition; and without preposition, no mortal can tell how the noun is governed. It is true, indeed, that all these grammarians, except PRIESTLY, have proved themselves as ignorant of the true origin and construction of the language as the Hottentots; but what then? without grammar, a man cannot be singular and pedantic; and where is the use of going to College, if a man, after plugging himself several years with knotty rules, is obliged to be like other folks? No, plain English is too vulgar for ANY BODY, except the family of the NOBODIES. However, to make this compound language more consistent, more beautiful and more sublime, I humbly suggest the following improvements; instead of PER GALLON, &c. let the phrases be PER GALLONEM, PER POUNDUM, PER PIECEM, PER YARDUM, PER FOOTUM, PER INCHUM, &c. Yours, UNCLE TOBY.

American Intelligence.

BOSTON, July 24.

YESTERDAY the oath prescribed by Congress was administered to the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, now sitting in this town, and to the Attornies and other officers of the Court, by the Hon. Judge Sullivan.

On Sunday last arrived here from New-York, Sir John Temple, his Britannic Majesty's Consul-General to the United States, with his lady.

A London paper of May 16th, says, "A new journal, under the title of *Les Etats Genereux*, was published in France on the second inst. and was to have been continued three times a week for the space of three months at least. The subscription was three half crowns, and the number of subscribers, who all paid before hand, was upwards of 2000. Le Jay, the publisher, employed a scurrilous and unpleasing writer, for which reason it was suppressed, by order of the King's Council, on Friday last, after the publication of the second number. As a specimen of its manner, take the following paragraph: "The deputies were obliged to wait from 1 o'clock in the morning, till after 11, the narrow, dark lobby of the Ephemerons hall, built for the States General, which really offered a view of a group of merchants on 'Change, rather than that of the entrance of a grand Assembly."

NEW-YORK, July 25.

A correspondent observes, that there are several circumstances which concur to embarrass the circu-

lating medium:—one is the excess which is put on the value of French crowns—this conduces to the advantage, not of the citizens, but of strangers, who make a profit of 14 per cent. upon all the crowns they bring here: This circumstance drives the change out of circulation, and the dollars out of the state.

Another embarrassing circumstance is the want of small bills of the paper money—none being issued less than five shillings; to diminish this difficulty, recourse was had to an expedient which has increased the evil—and that is the introduction of an immense quantity of copper coin:—This arrived at last to such an abuse of the public confidence that their circulation on a sudden has almost ceased; but to the cruel injury of many persons who suffer by this sudden stagnation; the injury is not much alleviated by being told that they must part with their property at a loss of 200 per cent. some advertising that they will take coppers at 60 to the shilling, which have been current at 20.—These things ought not so to be.

July 29. We hear that the Supreme Executive of the United States, in consequence of the resignation of Charles Thomson, Esq. has committed the records and papers of the late Congress, and the Great Seal of the United States, to the custody of Roger Alden, Esq. till further orders.

The President of the United States was as well as to receive visits of compliment from many official characters and citizens yesterday; but, we learn, that, until his strength shall be more fully restored, he proposes to receive them only once a week, and that on Tuesdays.

Mrs. Washington, we are informed, will be at home every Friday, at 1 o'clock, P. M. to see company.

Philadelphia, July 31.

Proceedings of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, July 27.

THE engrossed bill for settling accounts between the United States and individual states was read, and the blanks filled.

To the chief Clerk to the Commissioners, 600 dollars a year was allowed, and 200 dollars to the other Clerks.

A message from the Supreme Executive was received by Mr. Secretary Lear, with the bill for establishing an executive department, to be denominated the Department of Foreign Affairs; to which the President had affixed his signature.

The memorial of Nathaniel Gorham, praying, that Congress would take measures for determining the principles of the cession of the Western territory from the state of New-York to the United States, previous to running the line of jurisdiction and property between that state and individuals on the one part—which was presented on Friday last, was this day taken up, and on motion for the commitment of the same, a lengthy debate ensued: The motion was supported by Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Benson, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Laurance, and Mr. Sherman; and opposed by Mr. Scott and Mr. Boudinot—on the question being taken it was carried in the affirmative, and the memorial committed to Messrs. Huntington, Jackson and Lee.

In committee of the whole House, on the order of the day—

Mr. Boudinot in the chair—

The report of the committee appointed to confer with a committee of the Senate, in preparing joint rules to be established between the two Houses for the enrollment, preservation, attestation and publication of the acts of Congress, and to regulate the

The Independent Gazetteer
Phila., July 31, 1789

at Geyser, July 31, 1909.
(columns 1-2)

WHEREAS great Quantities of English Copper Half-pence, have been lately imported into this Province by the Merchants, who have paid them away to Farmers, Millers and Tradesmen, at an advanced Rate, and now refuse to receive them back again, at *Par* for Goods or Debts, as the Value they paid them away; and there being no Law to compel the Merchants and others to receive them as usual, to wit, One English Copper Half-penny, for one worth Four current Money of *Provincias*; this has occasioned a great Confusion amongst all sorts of *Trade*, and in the End must be a great Loss to them, especially to the poorer sort of the *Inhabitants*. It prudent Measures be not taken to remedy this Evil, which is become so general.

Let us call to mind the great Obstruction in *Business*, occasioned about 12 Years ago, by some *People's* refusing to take the 50th of Credit or the Discharge of the Counties of *New Castle, Kent and Sussex*, in *Debts*, and that great Numbers of the People of this Province, Tradesmen, Shopkeepers, and Labourers particularly, who had received the said Bills, suffered a Loss of at least 4 *lb*. and Value 5 *s*. in the Pound, and altho' a Number of the Merchants of the City, signed an Agreement, to accept of the said Bills of Credit, at the same Rate or Value with the Bills of Credit of this Province. Yet that was far from producing the desired Effect; until the late Trustees of the General Loan Office of *Provincias* accepted of the said Bills of Credit of the said Three Lower Counties, as all *Provincias* into the said Loan-Office, which effectually remedied our *Mischief*, and made Bills here ever since, without Loss to any Person whatsoever, but an universal Credit thro' the whole Province.

And it is humbly petition'd, that if our *Assembly* will order the English Copper Half-pence, to be received in all Payments to the Loan Office, at the Rate of One Penny each for Currentcy, it will effectually remedy the Evil, and secure the People of the Merchants Power: And as this is agreeable to the Satisfaction of all Persons of all the People of the Province, it cannot be doubted but our Honorable *Assembly*, who have heretofore always shew'd a due Regard for the Interest of our People, they represented, will make such Order for such *Redemption*, as will more and more secure to their Honours, the good Order and Affection of the said Province, a Few only excepted.

Signed in Behalf of the Petitioners

By the Petitioner

WHEREAS great Quantities of *English Copper Half-pence*, have been lately imported into this *Province* by the Merchants, who have paid them away to Farmers, Millers and Tradesmen, at an advanced Rate, and now refuse to receive them back again, in Payments for Goods or Debts, at the Value they paid them away, and there being no Law to compel the Merchants and others to receive them as usual, to wit, One *English Copper Half-penny*, for one whole Penny current Money of *Pennsylvania*, this has occasioned a great Confusion amongst all Sorts of People, and in the End must be a great Loss to them, especially to the poorer Sort of the *Inhabitants*, if prudent Measures be not taken to remedy this Evil, which is become so general.

Let us call to mind the great Obstruction to Business, occasioned about 12 Years ago, by some People's refusing to take the Bills of Credit of the Government of the Counties of *New Castle, Kent and Sussex*, on *Delaware*, and that great Numbers of the People of this *Province*; Tradesmen, Shopkeepers, and Labourers particularly; who had received the said Bills, suffered a Loss of at least 4 s. and often 5 s. in the Pound; and altho' a Number of the Merchants of this City, signed an Agreement, to accept of the said Bills of Credit, at the same Rate or Value with the Bills of Credit of this *Province*, Yet that was far from producing the desired Effect; until the late Trustees of the General Loan Office of *Pennsylvania* accepted of the said Bills of Credit of the said Three Lower Counties, in all Payments into the said Loan-Office, which effectually remedied the Mischief; and those Bills have ever since, without Loss to any Person whatsoever, had an universal Credit thro' the whole *Province*.

And it is humbly presum'd, that if our *Assembly* will order the *English Copper Half-pence*, to be receiv'd in all Payments in the Loan Office, at the Rate of One Penny each our Currency, it will effectually remedy the Evil, and rescue the People out of the Merchants Power: And as this is agreeable to the Sentiments of 19 parts in 20 of all the People of the *Province*, it cannot be doubted but our Honourable *Assembly*, who have heretofore always shew'd a due Regard for the Interest of the People they represented, will make such Order for their Relief, as will more and more secure to their Honours, the good Opinion and Affections of the whole *Province*, a Few only excepted.

Signed in Behalf of *Thousands*

By *Dick Farmer*.

been imported from Britain since the late war, but we have heard of sundry shipments being ordered, to the nominal amount of one thousand guineas; and we are told that no packet arrives from England without some hundred weight of base half-pence. It is a very moderate computation which states our loss, on the last twelve months, at 30,000 dollars, by the commerce of vile coin."

The following petition for the privilege of coining was presented to the Assembly of Pennsylvania; and we are indebted to Chas. I. Bushnell, Esq., for a certified copy. The original is on the files of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, Pa.

"Petition of Tho^s Smyth, Jr. and Thomas Harwood. Read 1st time Apl 5, 1786.

"To the Hon^{ble}, the General Assembly of Pennsylvania.

"The Petition of Tho^s Smyth Jr. and Tho^s Harwood 3^d both Citizens of the State of Maryland —

"Humbly Sheweth, That your Petitioners are possessed of Mines which will produce large quantities of Silver and Copper, and that as there is throughout the United States a distressing scarcity of Specie, They Humbly Conceive that those Mines may be made use of much to the advantage of the Public, by a part of their produce being Coined. For which purpose they are induced to Solicit your Hon^{ble} body for a law giving them an exclusive right of Coinage either to a certain amount or length of time, as your honors may deem most expedient.

"Your Petitioners will be ready to give you Satisfactory Security for Coining one fourth as much Silver as Copper, equal in purity and weight to any of the like Kind now circulating in America, and the Copper equal, if not Superior, to those made at Tower Hill, London, as well as the performance of every other Obligation, it may be necessary for them to enter into.

"Your Petitioners flatter themselves, that Your Honors will readily perceive the benefits, the State must derive from an acceptance of their proposition, and that their Application will meet with the Approbation of Your Honorable Body, And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray,
&c &c

Tho^s Smyth Jr. Tho^s Harwood 3^d."

It does not appear that this petition received any other attention than a single reading, as we discover no reference to any further action thereupon; neither do we learn of any subsequent attempt to establish a coinage in this State.



The following proclamation being read and considered, the same was agreed to and ordered to be published, vizt :

By his Excellency JOSEPH REED, Esquire, President, and the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Divers ill-disposed persons have manufactured or imported into this State quantities of base metal in the similitude of British half pence, but much inferior in value and weight to genuine British half-pence, to the great depreciation of that coin, the injury of the community in general, and the poor in particular, such practices having a natural tendency to raise the necessities of life and introduce new confusion in the currency of the country: We have, therefore, thought proper to prohibit, and do hereby strictly enjoin all officers employed in the receipt of taxes or other publick dues, not to receive such base coin in any payments whatsoever; and do earnestly recommend to all the faithfull inhabitants of this State to refuse it in payment, and by all other lawful ways and means discourage the currency thereof; and we do in a special manner direct and enjoin all Magistrates, Sheriffs, Constables and other civil officers within this State, to make due inquiry after offenders in the premises, that they may be brought to speedy and condign punishment.

Given by order of the Council, under the hand of his Excellency JOSEPH REED, Esquire, President, and the less seal of the State, at Philadelphia, this fourteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one.

JOSEPH REED, President.

Attest—T^y MATLACK, Secr'y.

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE.

A memorial from Nicholas Miller, of the borough of Lancaster, was read, and the same was dismissed.

A petition from Isaac Green, Jun'r, now confined in the gaol, praying to be discharged from confinement without entering on board the Trumbull frigate, was read, and rejected.

In Council.

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, July 16th, 1781.

PRESENT :

His Excellency the President.

Hon'ble the Vice President.

Mr. Gardner, and

Mr. Cunningham.

No Council.

J.C.Spilman, Editor

Serial No. 49

GLEANINGS (G-3)

Source:
Henry E. Huntington Library
San Marino, California
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COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

P.O.Box 4411

Huntsville, Alabama 35802

J.C.Spilman, Editor

Volume 16, No. 2

July, 1977

Serial No. 49

Numb. 34

GLEANINGS (G-3)

THE

LOYAL

Impartial Mercury:

OR,

NEWS both Foreign and Domestick.

From Tuesday, October 3. to Friday, October 6. 1682.

London, October 5.

THIS day the Court of Aldermen assembled, where they had under their considerations several weighty matters, in relation to the better government of the City affairs, and particularly the Country of the Poll Books, for the duty of the City, two of the Aldermen being presented to the Court, (in order to one of them being approved of as Lord Mayor for the year ensuing), came into debate, and we hear an Order is given to the heads of the respective Companies to bring in an exact List of the names of the Livery by Saturday next, and then is supposed, (after an exact comparing and examination), the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor will proceed to declare the person upon whom the great and honourable Trust is to be incumbent. We hear that the Number of the persons Pooled for are as follows, viz. Sir William Pinchard, 2237. Sir Thomas G.M. 2289. Sir Henry Tully, 226. Aldermen 2258.

We hear that Mr. Cradock, (a fine Declaration being entered in the case of a *Lithom Alagon*) brought against him by the Earl of Newcastle, the beginning of the next Term will move for an affidavit, and the Charges he hath at of that occasion.

The New England Affairs have again taken before the Commissioners for settling Liberties, Plantations, and have we have brought in a way of accommodation, to that the expected they will return in their respective Colonies.

We hear that the Earl of Newcastle and his Royal Highness continue here in good health, and we don't expect that his Majesty's ships to depart hence till the 15th of this month, at which the River will be run. His Majesty's ship, and his Majesty will depart hence with Honesty, and a great

Number of ships will be sent out for England. They were that another Ship is starting out for Pennsylvania on board which 40 Quakers together with their families will imbarq; and amongst other things 'tis said they carry over with them 300 pounds-worth of Half-pence, and Farthings which in that Colony go currant for twice their value and 'tis added that some discontented Presbyterians will Likewise accompany them.

From Bristol They write that another Ship is fitting out for Pennsylvania on board which 40 Quakers together with their families will imbarq; and amongst other things 'tis said they carry over with them 300 pounds-worth of Half-pence, and Farthings which in that Colony go currant for twice their value and 'tis added that some discontented Presbyterians will Likewise accompany them.

Upon his to-morrow's return to Court per the East Night between the hours of 8 and 9. A Blazing Meteor circled, with Swift Motion, the Arctick Sky, and at last fell towards the Earth, and in its fall excited in a Flash of lightning that of Lightning.

Dublin, Sept. 30. Our expectation of the arrival of his Grace the Duke of Ormonde, to whom it was reported, begins to lessen upon notice that his Grace has taken him a House where he intends to reside most part of the Winter, when in the mean while the Right Honourable the Earl of Albemarle is to arrive.

Published in London

THE
PENNSYLVANIA
MAGAZINE

OF HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY

VOLUME
XC

October, 1966

NO. 4

NINETIETH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

Publications Committee

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R. N. WILLIAMS, 2D

NICHOLAS B. WAINWRIGHT



Editor

NICHOLAS B. WAINWRIGHT

EDM

Note last sentence at bottom of p. 494. Perhaps a letter addressed to Mr. Nash would reveal Penn's letter therein referred to. "Long ago" could not have been longer than 1898 previous to Gov. Markham's letter. As you know, the great bulk of WP letters is at HSP, but there are, nevertheless, many others in widely scattered repositories. Such discovery (Public Record Office?) of a patent request for Pa. savings would be of great import.

11/12/66 EWB

Contributors

MALCOLM C. CLARK, Assistant Professor of History at the College of Charleston, is a candidate for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Georgetown University.

JOAN YOUNGER DICKINSON is a Research Associate of the Sociology Department of the University of Pennsylvania. Her research, arising out of a study project headed by Professor Edward P. Hutchinson, on the Italian-American community in Philadelphia was supported in part by funds supplied by the American-Italy Society and the American Philosophical Society.

PROFESSOR D. G. BRINTON THOMPSON of Trinity College contributed an earlier section of Dr. Daniel G. Brinton's Diary, which was published in the July, 1965, issue of this *Magazine*.

GARY B. NASH, now Assistant Professor of History at the University of California, Los Angeles, completes in this issue the series of Markham-Holme Letters, Part I of which was printed in our preceding number.

FREDERICK B. TOLLES, a member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Publications Committee, is Director of the Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College.

MRS. JAMES W. MORRISON of New London, Conn., is the great-granddaughter of Abraham Shoemaker, whose reminiscences of the Revolution she has edited.

The First Decade in Pennsylvania: Letters of William Markham and Thomas Holme to William Penn

Edited by GARY B. NASH

PART II

Philadelphia 24^o 3^{mo} 87

Dear Governor:

I received thine per Edward Blackfan,¹ and as for that of the myne business at Skoolkill,² I gave thee account of it as soon as I heard of it, and President Lloyd was acquainted with it, and yielded thereto before I proceeded to lay out the Land, and that is done according to Regulation, for all the Land below that is layd out and reserved for thee and thine on the Skoolkill, as per mapp thou wilt see, only Capt. Cock and 2 or 3 more, got a surveyor to lay out some lands beyond Skoolkill below the Island,³ alledging it was per order from thee. But when I understood how it was and by letter from thee: I warned C[aptain] Cock and the rest to forbear meddling there, for that I had positive orders from thee to the Contrary. But they persist, presumeing on thy favour etc. There are only them that any ways hinders the clearness of all the Lands from thy brother Low-

¹ A Quaker friend of Penn's, Blackfan may have been sent to Pennsylvania in 1687 to investigate the tangled and increasingly heated political affairs of the colony. In 1688 he married Penn's cousin, Rebecca Crispin, returning to England after a brief residence in Philadelphia.

² Copper—thought at first to be silver—was discovered on the banks of one of the Schuylkill tributaries (now Pickering Creek) in 1687. Charles Pickering, in alliance with John Gray (Tatham), obtained a warrant for 5,000 acres in the area from Penn's Commissioners of Property. Once in receipt of the news, Penn revoked the warrant as an "irregular grant" and gave instructions that ore lands were to be granted only upon his "express warrant." Holme, he added, "deserves to loose his office if I am rightly informed." Penn to Commissioners of Property, May 13, 1687, *Pa. Archives, Second Series*, XIX, 7.

³ Barbados Island, opposite the present Norristown.

thers to over against Farmers lands; it may be Charles Hartford⁴ may have some where (to thy least disadvantage) his land laid out on that side, but none yet looks after it.

And as for the Myne (which is Copper) Charles Pickering by this or the Ketch intends to send thee some of it, and as for such myne, I suppose there are more places, and some I heare of better quality. However the first undertakers of Mynerall matters, seldome grow rich thereby, but rather beggered. And if this myne prove well, no doubt but thou may do what thou please with Charles Pickring, and the Patent for that Land will not be granted to C[hables] P[ickering] till thou come or thy pleasure further known, but the lands are regular laid out.

As for Thomas Barkers and Company⁵ business, that vile C[hables] A[shcombe] laid out lands for them within the Welsh Tract, and many 1000 acres besides to others, and got the survey money (which was what he cared for) and that was the reason of that controversy. And it depended before the Council and Commissioners all the while, which stopped me, and no end was put to it, till the last month and as soon as the Council ordered it, I made the returnes into the Secretaryes office; which is what concerns me and as to favour Griffith Jones, its a great mistake, for he never had an inch of favour from me in any respect, neither did this ly in my way, for I knew nothing of places either for theires or his surveys till returned to me, for C[hables] A[shcombe] did all as to place; but when I found his returnes to be within the Welsh Tract, I could not allow them, but acquainted the Commissioners, who also laid it before the Council, and by them delayed till last month as before. Neither had it been allowed by me then, if I had received thy last letter, before that order of Council.

As for plus lands⁶ by the river, I allowed none since thy departure; there are severall plus lands back, by the false surveys, especially in

⁴ A soap boiler of Bristol, Hartford never emigrated to take up his purchase of 1,000 acres.

⁵ Five London Quaker shopkeeper-merchants—Thomas Barker, Humphrey South, Samuel Jobson, Sabian Cole, and John Moore—had combined resources in 1682 to purchase 5,000 acres of Pennsylvania land. The Londoners were interested primarily in land speculation and employed emigrating Quakers to handle their real estate transactions.

⁶ "Plus land" or "overplus land" was acreage surveyed and patented to a purchaser in excess of the designated amount. With vast expanses of virgin land at hand, the early surveyors were noted for their inexactitude, almost always at the proprietor's expense.

this and Chester Countyes; and I have begun resurveys, and was present my self, and found 3 or 400 acres plus, in 1500 acres by Thomas Fairmans surveys, who hath been naught, as I shall more at large acquaint thee, and I fear I shall be forced to resurvey much lands, and hope the plus will be such, as will allow the surveyors to be paid, and bring considerable advantage to thee, for I finde in 4 or 5 miles back from the river that I can sell the plus land at £20 or 30 per 100 acre,⁷ and where small quantities are found to have plus, judge it much better for thee to sell of this. Please to let me know thy minde, I can sell it for more than thou canst thy selfe.

As for 500 acres in every Township reserved for thee, [it] was sometimes observed, but when purchasers came in, and were hard to be pleased (as they are still more and more) I was fain to let them have such reservations, but for the future shall not, come what will.⁸

I shall observe thy orders about Sir Matthew Vincent & Company lands.⁹ I acquainted David Lloyd with thy minde therein.

Dr. More deceased, Patrick Robinson promised to give thee account at large, his widdow is helpless, as to country matters. I wrote 2 or 3 times last year about goods to pay the Indians for their lands. They were to have them this spring; if they come not per King, I know not how to answer and satisfy them.

As for Charles Ashcom, I severall times acquainted thee of his business, and intent to defraud me, and to go away, but thou wert not pleased to send me any effectual answer; though thou canst not forget that thou promised me upon my reemploying him, that thou engaged he should perform what thou then ordered, but he never did; and so I cannot but look on thee for my dues.¹⁰ When I

⁷ Penn's standard price for Pennsylvania land was £20 per thousand acres.

⁸ According to the "Conditions and Concessions"—a statement of terms upon which land would be sold, issued in London in July, 1681—Penn reserved one-tenth of each block of 100,000 acres, or 500 acres in each township of 5,000 acres. This stipulation always rankled the settlers, especially later arrivals, who complained that they must take up land far distant from Philadelphia though immense proprietary tracts and manors lay waste nearby.

⁹ Sir Mathias Vincent, Maj. Robert Thompson, and Dr. Daniel Coxe, all wealthy courtiers in London engaged in colonial schemes, each purchased 10,000 acres from Penn in 1686 as part of larger plans to aggrandize the Iroquois Indian trade. David Lloyd functioned as their agent in Pennsylvania. See Albright G. Zimmerman, "Daniel Coxe and the New Mediterranean Sea Company," *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* (PMHB), LXXVI (1952), 86-96.

¹⁰ As Surveyor General, Holme was to get one-third of the surveying fees payable to his deputy surveyors.

heard that he was selling his land, and going out of the Country, I made application to the Council by writeing setting forth how much thou was ———— and ———— by Ashcom, to £2000 damage 2000 persons lost, not comeing into the Province occasioned for want of a mapp,¹¹ which was mostly obstructed by his not making true surveys and returnes etc., besides the survey money of that County due to me from said Ashcom which he received; Charles Ashcom was then here, and the Council heard us a litle but they were pleased to do (as they used sometimes to do) nothing. Then I took an arrest out against him, but he had some notice of it, and got away before it was served, and so left the country, and his houses and plantation wast. John Simcock was here then, who hath much stood for him, and thereby encouraged him. I mean, in not paying me my due, tho I told J[ohn] S[imcock] that the loss would fall on thee, as being engaged for C[harles] A[shcombe], but thy concernes in that, supplies, and other things, hath been obstructed by such as pretend greatest love to thee in words. Thou wilt hereafter know them. I hear of plus lands in that County, and told J[ohn] S[imcock] I intended to resurvey his and other lands, for that C[harles] A[shcombe] hath not only made too much measure, but taken on him to allow bad lands for barren, over and above their due quantities, and yet brought in his draughts and figures, as if no such thing was done, but all as good land; which also make the Returnes false; and this was contrary to his instructions. But he did anything what he pleased, and no wonder if Chester County stand for him, when he hath done as he hath; and whatever is done for the peopl's advantage and to please them, though never so much to thy damage, yet all is well, etc. C[harles] A[shcombe] is gone for England, as said, and he will be apt to tell thee flattering storyes. But the mischeife of his surveying so much lands within the Welsh Tract, and got the survey money, and left mischife and confusion, not easy to be remedied, he cannot answer. I hope thou will obtain a Patent of the Lower Counties for thy selfe, and so by that meanes make all one province i.e. pennsylvania. Thou was long ago speaking of getting a patent for coynage, which may do well, for silver to such a value, as 6 sh 12 d, also for Copper and tyn it may do well to coyne etc.

¹¹ Holme's map of the province was finally completed and published in London in 1687.

What I long ago wrote to thee about the designe of the Governor of New York to hinder our dealing with ye Sinakes for land at Susquehanah, and for trade, is now manifest, he and Council there haveing wrote strangely hither, to prohibit our trading or purchasing lands above the falls of Skulkill, (6 miles off), and should our peopl know it twould dishearten them to take up lands back, or to trade with the Indians.¹² This seemes the greatest concerne now here; the Council or secretary must fully acquaint thee however I cannot but hint it to thee; and whatever tends to thy prejudice, or for thy benifit, I would willingly enforme thee, for thy interest in all respects, is more to me than my perticular concernes.

I reserve 10000 acres above the great meadow so called above the falls and if thou let any body have above $\frac{1}{2}$ that meadow, that 10000 acres will want it. K. Mildmay & Company¹³ their lands are severall miles distant from that meadow, and therfore I marvil at thy granting them a $\frac{1}{4}$ part; Thomas Hudson['s] son now going over says he will get his father to obtain all that meadow of thee, if so the adjacent Tract of 10000 acres will (as I said before) suffer greatly; indeed Thomas Hudson's 1000 acres on the river a litle below the meadow, (where Jacob Hall his Agent lives)¹⁴ hath no meadow in it, and cannot well be without some of the great meadow. A $\frac{1}{4}$ part is enough, the whole being about 200 acres but generally dry land; and Mildmay & Company the other $\frac{1}{4}$ pt. Then be sure to grant no more of it, and so thine will be the moyety for the 10000 acres. Phillip Ford writes to me to let Thomas Hudson have $\frac{1}{2}$ the meadow, but I shall not do it unless thou send me positive order, for the reasons aforesaid; and P[hillip] F[ord] thinks that his land joynes to the meadow, which is a mistake, for the 1000 acres it selfe is a mile or 2 from the meadow and 8 or 10 miles from the 5000 acres, and next that thy warrant is for the 5000 acres for Mildmay & Company.

¹² The New Yorkers' letter is reprinted in *PMHB*, XI (1887), 241-242. Dongan, in all probability, was referring to the Wyalusing Falls, rather than to the lower Schuylkill Falls near Philadelphia.

¹³ A group of London land speculators.

¹⁴ Thomas Hudson and Jacob Hall, like the Farmer and Whitpain families, were attempting to establish a trade with the Indians on the Schuylkill River. Nine servants indentured to Hall and Hudson arrived in Pennsylvania in the summer of 1685, including the future Indian interpreter, Polycarpus Rose. *PMHB*, IX (1885), 231-232.

No hopes of any supplies of money for publick use. Our friends likes thee well to be their Governor, if thou put them not to a penny charge. Severall things go ill here by thy absence, others may better enform thee, for I cannot see to write, but by guess, as much as sight. Patrick Robinson a prisoner, let him acquaint thee of it himselfe.

I am glad thou makest now a distinction between thy propr[ietary] and Government though that of the Government I yet know nothing of. It was not opened yesterday, 3 of them, not being together. I hope when thou comes, thou wilt be a Governor, its time, if thou knew all. I grow dim of sight, and aged, but healthy and shall ever while I live, wish well (when I can do no better) to thy concernes and interest, unto which I have been and shall remain faithfull (to my understanding). God preserve thee and thine and send you over to us, with true and dear love to thee and wife etc.; I and mine well.

Thy faithfull fr[ie]nd]

Thomas Holme

Sir:

My Last is by the Same Vessell this Comes, shee not getting out before the frost, was forced to winter in [St.] Georges Creek.¹⁵ During the time the River was shutt up little of moment hapned. It was not long, for the Winter has been very favourable. The River was no sooner Clear, but Capt. Bowman Arrives, which was 25 of January. Upon the 8th Instant Wee had a Councill, the minutes I herewith send; much debate there was of things not Inserted, the principall were these. Whether those in the Commission for Deputy Governor¹⁶

¹⁵ In New Castle County, now the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal.

¹⁶ By 1687 Penn was thoroughly dissatisfied with the investment of the executive authority of his government in the Council as a whole. As an alternative he appointed five Commissioners of State—Nicholas More, James Claypoole, Thomas Lloyd, John Eckley, and Robert Turner—to serve as the Deputy Governor. "My former deputation [to Council]", he wrote, "[was] clogg'd with a long and slow tale of persons from all parts,—rarely gott together, and then with unwillingness, and sometimes reflections, even upon me for their pains of hearing one letter read." Penn to Commissioners of State, June 6, 1687, Penn Papers, Domestic and Miscellaneous Letters, 86. When Penn received news of More and Claypoole's death, he appointed Arthur Cooke and John Simcock in their stead. See Penn to Commissioners of State, Sept. 17, 1687, *ibid.*, 86. Manuscripts cited are at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania unless otherwise noted.

that were Members of Councill, should Continue so; or others Chosen in their Roome; President Lloyd maintained the argument for their standing, tho I believe more for argument sake, then his reall opinion, by his Letting it fall at last; a thing he used not to doe in any Case he once Incounters; his Alligation was, that the Governor haveing before Invested the whole Councill with his Authority, without takeing from them, their Councillershipp; so he might now place the same in a part, and they Remaine still in that station. However writts are not yett gon out to Choose others in their Roome, tho I suppose they Intend it. An other was about the trying of Roe and his Wife; suspected of the murther of Hambleton,¹⁷ the time, place, and Judges; the Judges because it was Alliged, that they being now Deputy Governors that were Judges,¹⁸ Could not sitt as Judges. The Law saying that there shall be Judges Commissionated, and that the Deputy Governor Could not Commissionate himselfe; these were left undetermined, but suppose the Deputy Governor will sitt as Judg. I Ernestly Importuned the Deputy Governor and Councill, that I might not hold as a member of Councill, but that they would grant a writt for the Choosing an other, but pray'd that it might be upon Record that it was not any office I held made me Incapable as it was once objected, but only my Reques[t]; but this took not, indeed I was very much affraid that Arguments would have growne sharper then they did, and I hoped by Dismission to avoyd Contention. The Coppy of the Commission for Deputy Governor, I would have sent you, but I saw it not till it was given me as Clark to Read in Councill, and President Lloyd took it with him againe; it was writt by David Lloyd. What Comes to my Knowledg Relateing to the Government, you shall have a true account off. But how far I shall be made use off Know not. Nott but that there is a very Kinde Correspondence between the Deputy Gover[ment] and my selfe, and Ever was, T[homas] L[lloyd] Excepted, to whome in obedience to your Command, and good of Your Intrested, I wayted on him the 6th Instant. What Discourse wee had he seemed mighty well pleased with, said he had writt a Letter to you by the way of New York,

¹⁷ George Roe and his wife of Kent County, tried for the murder of one Hambleton or Hamilton, a passer-by.

¹⁸ Arthur Cooke and John Simcock.

which he was Sorry for, beleiveing it would trouble you, but by the next Opportunity, he will write one that will as much please you. I hear nothing more then what I writt by my last of the Indians present of a belt of Wampam. But believe those ingrosers of the Indian trade are not fare; but Endeavours to Keep the Indians from treating with the Government.¹⁹ Haveing this suspition, I imbraced an Invitation of Zachariah Whitpaines to his Plantation, where I heard severall Indians were to be. It was on the 17th of January and it beeing his birthday, wee mett there severall that were Delaware Indians who had been severall years amongst the Senecas, but was now, since the warrs with the French, settled upon Susquehanna. I made what observations I Could, and those, strengthened my former opinion. I told President Lloyd of it, and Advised, that when the Indians were paid, it would be very necessary the Government should be together, to Discourse them.

I formerly writt to you about mills, with an account of Thomas Cobournes building one above Upland mill, but have no answer yett.²⁰ Severall hath been with us to grant them to sett up mills, perticularly Barnabas Wilcox, to sett up one on the same streame William Claytons is upon, but above it.²¹ I have Kept him off hoping your Answer, and Rather because it would be an ill Precedent, for Cobourne to build above You at Upland, which he still goes forward with, and is now Ready to work, which will be as Caleb Pusey tells me a very great prejudice to your mill there. I was Desired to putt

¹⁹ Markham refers, presumably, to the government of New York.

²⁰ The Upland (Chester) mill was Penn's proprietary mill, operated by Caleb Pusey, a member of Penn's officeholding circle. Pusey had earlier complained to the Commissioners of Property that Coebourne's mill, already abuilding, would be to the "great Damage" of Penn's mill further downstream. Coebourne refused to heed the Commissioners' summons to appear before them but sent instead a letter by which, as the Commissioners wrote, "we perceive thou dost not only condemn the Proprietor's authority and Endeavour to subvert his Dominion over all the water and Soile within this, his Province of Pensilvania, as he is chief Proprietary thereof, but likewise intendest to persist on the Building the Mill aforesaid to the Damage of the other Mill and Contempt of the Proprietaryship." Coebourne was ordered to desist from milling operations until advice arrived from England as to the proprietor's desires. See *Pa. Archives, Second Series*, XIX, 10, 17-18.

²¹ A Bristol ropemaker, Wilcox had immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1682. Clayton had arrived on the Delaware in the 1670's with a group of West Jersey Quakers. By the early 1680's he had taken up residence in Chester County, where he became an influential landowner and officeholder.

you in mind of Thomas Bracys²² house at Upland. You Know the business much better then I. He desires to Know what you will be pleased to doe in it; James Sanderling,²³ and William Salway,²⁴ are Attornys, for the Pretended owner. By the Letter I inclose from Major Dyer, you may see he is still the same. I am now at New Castle intend hence tomorrow homewards, will here give you the News of the Place. I here send the Coppy of a Letter to Edward Blake a Justice of the peace in this County²⁵ from Capt. Murry. The man that's mentioned in it as a Runaway made his Complaint to me, how he was abused and Rob'd by the men of the pigg-stye fort,²⁶ of thirty shillings in silver and some small matter in Wampam, besides all his Cloaths he had in a bundle. Their pretence was his traveling without a pass. The man desired he might be Carried before a justice of the peace, but they refused, Damning and sinking the Justices of the peace, Calling the fellow dogg at Every word; he Desired they would lett him putt on a Clean shirt was in his bundle. They lett him, but finding that was a Ragg he pulled off, make him strip againe. Then he begged them to lett him have some of his money because he was to goe to New Castle, and by the perswasion of John Vinnerson, who was then there they gave him the wampam he had; after he was gon a little way, one of the men of the fort went after him took the wampam from him and swoare the Dogg should not have a farthing. The man at New Castle mett an acquaintance of his that gave Security to the Justices that he was a freeman, the magestrates of New Castle County I suppose will write to you about

NEAR

Wampum

²² A Quaker of Cheshire, England, Bracy was a purchaser of 5,000 acres in Pennsylvania, and a member of the Free Society of Traders' twelve-man governing board.

²³ One of the earliest English settlers on the Delaware, Sanderland had settled at Upland in 1669. An important figure during the transfer of land and government from the Duke of York to Penn, he continued to maintain his position as a prominent tobacco merchant until his death in 1692.

²⁴ A sergemaker from Somerset, England, Salway became an active attorney in Pennsylvania and later judge in the Philadelphia courts.

²⁵ A Quaker turner from London, Blake was an early settler in New Castle County.

²⁶ The fort at Christina Bridge, about six miles west of New Castle on the west side of Christina Creek, had been built in 1684 by order of the government of Maryland to discourage Pennsylvanians from taking up land near the disputed Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, and to cut off a common route between Maryland and the Lower Counties by which Chesapeake debtors and runaway servants escaped to Pennsylvania. Details on the long controversy about it may be followed in *Pa. Archives, Second Series*, XVI, 722-726, and *Archives of Maryland*, V, 485; XVII, 223, 233, 279, 284, 464.

the abuses don by these in the fort, which putt's the whole County into fear. Ephraim Harman²⁷ lately dyed without a will for he no sooner sickned, but he lost his senses, lay so six Days then dyed. He had pritty well Documented James Walliam,²⁸ and left him to trouble and vex the masters, and owners of Vessells that trade into this River. The Letter I Received from you by Bowman, was most of it Reproof. The author of the story of my Wifes pride, and hautiness, it seems is no Quaker, of that am glad, and if you had said no Christian, would not have Erred. But Sir I hope I might Reasonably Expect, under severall Circumstances, so much friendshipp, as, if the forger be a man of Creditt, I may Know him, if not, and in your power, you will punish him, or, you protect a Callumniator which is more Dangerous then an Italian Dagger. As to the Boonfire, its as Ridiculous a story, as that of old Brasile. My opening the Letter at New Castle to show my Lord Effingham²⁹ my Author, was a strange Idea. My Lord was not then there, the Cover (if it may be called soe) I have yett to show, and had it been about me would have sent it to you. No Sir I Desire no Authority, and will Imbrace the meanest office in your Country for a livelyhood. I have had tytles but never proffitts, and if you will be pleased to Look over the Letters sent by Bond, and Smyth, I have there stated the Case, Especially in my last. This I Begg of you to doe. You write in your Last I have T[homas] L[loyd]'s place. I Know not what you mean by it, unless being a Commissioner. I am sure it Adds not to the pott. Pray pardon me Sir I shall make as few Complaints as possible, but will with patience Indure the wringing shooe. I am much troubled at the Necessity my Cousen Bradshaw³⁰ is Reduced to, his Employment will hardly Keep him alive; Especially when I Consider what Employments you give those would betray you for a penny more proffitt, John White and Norton Claypoole³¹ for two. I have no more time,

²⁷ A Dutch tobacco merchant and planter of the Lower Counties, Hermann's father had been an important officer and merchant in the Dutch West India Company at New Netherlands during the 1660's.

²⁸ Customs collector, tavern keeper, and tobacco merchant at New Castle.

²⁹ Lord Howard of Effingham, Governor of Virginia, 1683-1689.

³⁰ James Bradshaw, Deputy Surveyor and Register General for New Castle County.

³¹ Brother of the Philadelphia Quaker merchant James Claypoole, Norton Claypoole was Deputy Register General and Master of the Rolls for Kent and Sussex Counties, and Customs Collector at Lewes.

the master of the Ketch just going away, then to add mine and Wifes Respects and Humble service to your Lady and Cousens and Remaine what I am sure I Ever shall

Your Affectionate Kinsman and
faithfull servant

William Markham

New Castle

Feb.: 16: 1687
8

Edward Blackfan intends for England in 3 weeks tim for which I am sorry. Wee shall want him here, by him shall write what happens. I thought to have sent the Coppy of Murrys Letter, but have sent the originall. My Love pray Sir to my Daughter.

Wellspring 24th 1^{mo} 88

Dear Governor:

Yesterday I received thine by way of Maryland, but know not when writ for want of date. I hear the pay is come for the Indians to Capt. Markham, but what or how much know not. As to matters of the Government I medle not. Those concerned I hope will give thee account. I only keep my Comission of Provinciaall Justice, which I keep to answer hues and Cryes etc. as being more known than others here as also if occasion be about the peace of the Country; but am willing when thou please to surrender it up.

As for what thou writes about peopl wanting to have their Lands layd out in 6 month time, is a false information. I must vindicate my selfe therein. This I affirme and that twicely, that no man, after producing a warrant from thee or thy Commissioners ever stayed an houre for want of any order or warrant from me to the respective Deputy Surveyor to execute the same, and if after that, they have neglected to pursue their own business, the fault is in them, and when any complaint have been made to me, I have been ready to rectify it, if it lay there, that is if the Surveyors neglected. For I will not own any delay or neglect in mee; I know sometimes that peopl have long kept their warrants, before shewed me, and also they have taken mine to the Surveyors, have kept them long, before they

followed their matters or sought the Surveyors to lay out their Lands. I also know that after they have had mine to the Surveyors, and spake with the Surveyors, that finding they could not have Lands near enough or to their mindes, have caused to medle more a long time, and after that some have been faine to tak it where it could be had. I am abused in this as in some other things, and if thou wilt do me justice herein please to let me know the names of such as have been delayed, and the informers; this cannot proceed from the persens themselves concerned, for it is so false, and known to be so that they cannot be the informers themselves, but though this seemes to reflect on me, I know whom they wound through my sides, and the reflection is aimed at another more than me.

As for the mapp, it was done as well as it could be then, thou pressed so hard for it; and I am like to have litle for mee and Robert Longshore,³² nothing but a few mapps, which will not vend here.

As for Lands at Nesheminek intended for thou and relations, didst thou but know what hard speaches I have met with from many about Lands, (thy selfe not escaping their Lashes) thou couldst not blame mee while one cryed out must Lands be kept wast etc., and we now came in cannot have lands to setle upon, others that they bought Lands long ago, and now come to live on them, and cannot have them etc. I could say a great deal, but it would not please thee, nor more than their cryes (without cause) against me.

I long since gave thee account about Pickrings lands and he wrote to thee. The Lands were laid out, before I heard any thing from thee, neither is there so much in it, as it may seem. I have spoke with others that say they know such mines or better, but will not discover it to any but to thy selfe.

Thou art pleased to write, that thou hast no lands on the East side of Skulkill, which is a mistake, for besides the manour of Springfield which reaches (part of it as thou ordered it to the river) and though Thomas Fairman hath dealt falsely with thee therein and Major Farmer placed contrary to thy order by too much breadth on that river, and so left thy Manour but about 3000 acres instead of 5000 acres, yet I purpose to remedy that, and leave thy due, and yet Farmers have theirs also. Had that been right done by T[homas]

³² Deputy Surveyor General of Pennsylvania.

F[airman] there would have been a good space behind that and by Plymouth Township; but their building so high up by the river prevents it there and makes that the loss. The next above plymouth, is but a 1000 acres layd out to the two Chambers,³³ and then begins next the B[arbados] Island, and the breadth Eastward takes in about 3000 acres, next above that is a great Tract of Land betwixt that and Perkomia where I inserted Phillip Fords name, who had no Lands, of all his 10000 acres. But I know not yet the quantity of that Tract whether 5 or 6000 acres or more or less, and wrote to thee to let me know what quantity should be allowed him there, but had no answer, so that there may be about 5000 acres on the E. side of skulkill there for one of thy children, besides all the Lands on the W. side of skulkill from against Farmers to Lowthers lands. Only the Sweeds, think to keep their land there, which I warned them of, and told them thou sent me positive order to the Contrary, i.e. that no old settler should have any lands there. And as for Perkomia, it was thy order to have a manour there. Tis true the Lands are bad backward for I have been there, but the 2 Rivers and large meadowes some on this side. Perkomia which I intend to be part of the manour, will supply the deficit of the bad lands; I intend thee about 4 miles upon skulkill for the front of the manour.³⁴

I wish thou had writ me, when thou put down Thomas Elwood and Herbert Springet.³⁵

I have not yet seen John Grey; As for a Man beyond Concord I never heard of it; Charles Ashcom layd out all the Lands thereabouts, and I knew of no order or warrant from thee for it, which made me write thee long ago, that I wondered thou —— not all this while ordered a manour for thy selfe in Chester County and that must be placed to thy own omission; though I purpose to have a Tract lookt at for thee that way as well as can be.

I also purpose a Tract of 1000 acres above the Falls for thy dispose, next adjacent to the great Meadow and about 4 miles fronting the River, for above that is rocky by the river for a great space and

³³ John and Benjamin Chambers.

³⁴ The proprietary manor of Gilberts, surveyed in 1733.

³⁵ Both Elwood and Springet were nonemigrating First Purchasers. Elwood was a prominent leader of the Society of Friends in England; Springet was the uncle of Penn's first wife.

within that Tract Gilbert Wheeler³⁶ got Israel Taylor to place some warrants which I forbade when I heard of it, and shall not allow him any return for it. Thomas Hudsons Agent here will not take up the 5000 acres for K. Mildmay & Company, pretending the Lands not good. Thou hast mistaken granting away the meadow, which lyes above 10 miles from Thomas Hudsons 5000 acres but I refuse to answer the Agent about what was secured from thee about that meadow, till I send thee a full account of that thing.

I formerly wrote to thee about Samuel Carpenter and recommended him,³⁷ as one I know a true friend to thy interest. It may do well to Comissionate him as one with Col. Markham for he is more capable than the other 2., and I must needs enforme thee, that few [are] like him for thee and thy interest, and many may pretend much, but when thou comes, thou will finde otherwise.

I wrote to thee 2 or 3 times about Susquehanah, how many offered to go and live there and that the Government of [New] York, impedes thy dealing with the Indians, and unless thou obtaines a positive Comand from the King to that Governor actively to assist in it, thou will finde it difficult to deale with the Indians concerned there but I heard nothing from thee about it, and if thou now bought it might tend to thy advantag, for Lands being taken up so farr back here, peopl are not willing to go further; but if now Susquehanah were begun to inhabite, peopl would be more willing to settle back that way, in hopes to conjoyne.

I write this most by guess, cannot read it, when writ, to mend words or letters so must be excused. I wrote to thee to consult some oculists for help for my sight. I have no ——— eyes or deflection. When the Indians are paid there will be charge to get the respective lines³⁸ forward and backward. Nothing in the Treasurers hands, nor ever was, nor like to be as I wrote thee; nay now some say, its against their conscience to pay country taxes.

Thou art pleased to write, that my place is the best in the Province. I think thou wouldst not be sure if it was so, and if I say that I have done as much as any other for the welfare of thy interest, I should not say amiss. But truly Governor I gave thee account, how

³⁶ A yeoman farmer of Bucks County.

³⁷ As a Commissioner of Property.

³⁸ Survey lines.

I was used by Charles Ashcom, and his example made the 2 Surveyors of this and Bucks County T[homas] F[airman] and I[srael] T[aylor] to the like, who never paid me one penny to this day. They got all they could of the peopl. I sued I[srael] T[aylor] and the jury found by my Patent, that the Survey mony was due to me, but no more done yet; I also sumoned T[homas] F[airman] but by the persuasion of friends left it to arbitration and shall suffer much and would be glad of any thing when its due. I wrote thee of his false surveying, and desired a warrant from thee to make a resurvey any where in the province. When I was enformed the Surveys were false, which will put thee to no charge, but me to great trouble yet willing to undergo much, rather then have thee injured, as being my duty, and though there be severall false surveys, yet in the end, it will tend to thy advantage, for the plus will yield much in many places, and need not be disposed of without thy order, so that the resurvey and selling peopl in their due quantities, and not taking away in the plus, any of their improvements will settle their minds, who are now in fear hearing how wrong their lands are laid out, and their Patents false.

I also wrote to thee of the necessity of a Court, i.e., in the name or nature of an Exchequer with power, whereby thee may be righted and order all things relating to the proprietaryship for as the case now stands, thou canst not have quick remedy for or about thy interest and matters relating to Lands, Rents, etc. nor I and others that hold our places imediatly from thee. I could say much on this, but leave it to thy consideration and wisdom, and am so farr clear. I perceive I am not free from secret enemies who Indian like stand behind a tree to shoot at one; what worse dealt with them an heathen, back bite and false informe, and not speake to ones face; I am sure its farr from a Christian spirit, or practise of friends, to back bite and skandall one, and never tell them of their faults; if any had seen me amiss, and told me of it, and I not answered expectation I might have been dealt with according to the order of truth, and charity words. I cannot but acquaint thee that I expect thou wilt be so just and kinde to me, to let me know the informers, though I engage to thee not to disclose it to them, without thy consent, and let me not be thus murthered and wounded by pretended friends, that may speake faire to my face, for I am not conscious to deserve it at any ones

hands.³⁹ And seeing I meet with so bad quarter, and that thou art reflected on, for me, I am the less willing to continue in such a Trust, whereby to cause thee to suffer in the least for my sake and now do renew my former desire to thee to let me know what thou wilt please to give me for my place, or give me leave to dispose of it with thy approbation, for it is not to be in such a place, which may cause thee to be reflected upon, that will make it uneasy to my selfe, especially till I know my accusers, I shall not follow their examples to be an informer, els I might soon fill thy eares, with the infermities of others both in the like and other things, but its below me as a man much more as a Christian; I forbear any more of it now. I and mine in health, so is Silas [Crispin] and his. My deare love to thee and thy dear wife.

Thy true and faithfull friend
Thomas Holme

Sir:

My Last was by Edward Black the 24 of the Last month who went from Philadelphia the 26th Instant. The Same day I went to your Plantation haveing sent two Carpenters to work about shingling your house. Whilst I was there, Mr. Plowman Came thether being on his jorney to New York to take the place Capt. Santon⁴⁰ had. He stopped me a day longer horses being Difficult to be gott, which thorowe [throughout?] Maryland they pressed for him. The 29th I Came from Arthur Cooks in Company with him and John Symcock. Part of our Discourse upon the Road was about your Disposing that overplus land to Mr. Gray: you know their tempers very well, both

³⁹ Holme had long been under attack from members of the antiproprietary faction. As early as 1685 Penn wrote that informants charged Holme with excessive drinking and accepting bribes. Penn to Thomas Lloyd, John Simcock, Christopher Taylor, James Harrison, and Robert Turner, July 13, 1685, Penn Papers, Domestic and Miscellaneous Letters, 79–80. One of Holme's critics was Ralph Fretwell who complained bitterly to Penn of the Surveyor General, charging that he "wants abillities or honesty." Fretwell to Penn, October, 1684, Albert C. Myers Collection, Box 2, No. 7, Chester County Historical Society.

⁴⁰ Matthew Plowman was appointed Collector and Receiver of Customs at New York, Nov. 4, 1687. He replaced Lucas Santon who was charged with peculating the King's revenue. See *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York* (Albany, 1856–1883), III, 500; and *Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series, America and West Indies, 1685–1688* (London, 1899), *passim*.

of them much Concern'd at it, and said they had writt to you aboute it, and by what I Could gather thought me a great Instrument in procuring it. Then they reflected upon your order of Disposeing of mens lands not seated according to Regulation,⁴¹ and John Symcock in his old Sinicall way told me I had as good lett it alone as put it in Execution. I was not willing to Come to sharpes with them so joacqued it off. The nex day being the 30 March the Councill satt, an account of their proceedings you shall have at Large. In the morning Arthur Cook, John Symcock, John Bristow,⁴² Capt. Holme, James Atkinson, and my selfe were altogether in your house, where hapened a Discourse about Quitrents. James Atkinson said he had order from the Commissioners to Receive none but in the specie it ought to be paid in, and Challenged John Symcock for thretning to pull downe the paper from off the Cour[t]house Door at Upland and burne it, the which he had sett up to signifie the same to the people. John Symcock owned it and did aver you Condicended to take Corne in lieu and pleaded with all that your assent to that Law that makes the Country produce lawfull pay did oblige you to take the Same.⁴³ I told him it was your positive orders to the Contrary, which should be followed by me; he then said wee must sue for it, and he was Confident there was no Jury but would give it them; I hope said I you doe not think the Governor would submitt his Cause between

⁴¹ By proclamation of Jan. 24, 1686/87 Penn had ordered that land not settled in accordance with the Conditions and Concessions (which stated that every tract of 5,000 acres "should have ten familys at the least, that the Province might not be like a Wilderness as some others") was to be taken up by the Commissioners of Property and sold "to those that are able and ready to seate the same." See "A Proclamation concerning seating of land . . .", *Pa. Archives, Second Series*, XIX, 5-6. Penn's Commissioners, realizing the enmity which such an order would arouse among the large landholders, deferred publication of Penn's proclamation for three months after its arrival (*ibid.*, 8). But on July 26, 1687, the proclamation was published together with a notice from the Commissioners that vacant lands would be inspected and taken up for re-sale if not seated within three months. See "A Proclamation by the Proprietary Deputies," *ibid.*, 16-17. Penn's campaign against land speculators, carried out from a distance of 3,000 miles, was never successful and only succeeded in alienating many of his former supporters.

⁴² A Quaker landowner in Chester County, Bristow was a member of Council from 1687 to 1692.

⁴³ By a law passed by 1683, wheat, corn, tobacco, and other designated country produce were declared "Current pay" in Pennsylvania. Before his return to England in August, 1684, Penn had specifically authorized the collection of quitrents in wheat. See Instructions to the Commissioners of Property, J. Henly Smith Papers, I, 3, Library of Congress.

him and people to the Judgment of the people, but I Dared not say where you Appoynt such to be tryed, nor in the least hint upon your Instruction in that Case.⁴⁴ First that as its but an Instruction they would Baffle it, secondly if it were off [of] force it would be Envied, and lastly the Courage of my partners would hardly assist me through it. All I Expected was from Samuel Carpenter,⁴⁵ who shrinks up his shoulders and says they are hard things, and besides tells me that his man now going from him, he intends to stick close to his warehouse and Wharfe himselfe, but Rather than want his assistance, I told him wee would sometimes Come to him. But to John Symcock he said that the people Intended nothing but Honesty with you, but you not so with them, and that you had Kidnapped them into the Country. I admired to see him in that humour.

Upon the second Instant in the forenoon Joseph Growdon Came into the Councill, the first time I had seen him since Mr Gray Came over. He looked bigg but avoyded looking towards me. At that time the Councill was Debateing about Deer Skins and Rum. Some were for prohibiting the Exportation of one and Importation of the other, and some for laying A Custom upon Rum at four shillings per gallon. I was for neither of these, as to the Skinns my Judgment was that Every tenth or any other part if they thought that too Little should be as a Custome and the Governor should be obliged to sell them out at a Reasonable Rate, to those [who] shall be thought, by those he shall appoynt to that purpose to judg, were in want of them for Cloathing. For Rum I was neither for Prohibiting nor so heavie taxing it but that a moderate Rate should be laid upon it. For it was all one to prohibit as to pay four shillings per gallon Custome. Joseph Growdon was smart for prohibiting Rum alligeing that the Spiritt they Could make from Malt, wheat Rice or any other graine were more agreeable to mans body. I Replyed that I thought Joseph Growdon had spoak against Rum Concientiously, till he promoted

⁴⁴ Penn, in a letter dated Feb. 8, 1686/87, had authorized the Commissioners of Property to sit as a court of exchequer in any case relating to land. "You are my Court for Land and I need not submit to ordinary Courts," wrote the proprietor. By this time Penn was in full pursuit of land speculators. "The province shall not wait the Leisure of their Ability to seat it," he warned, "nor shall it be a wilderness for any man's humour or covetousness." *Pa. Archives, Second Series*, XIX, 11-12.

⁴⁵ Carpenter was a Commissioner of Property, Councilor, Provincial Treasurer, and at this time probably the chief Quaker merchant in Philadelphia.

other Liquors as bad in its Roome, and since it is likely that if Ever the Governor have anything for the Support of Government it must be from merchantdise Imported wee ought not to prohibit them without proposeing some other means. And for Mr. Growdons asserting the vertue of the other spiritts before Rum, he proved himselfe no well Learn'd Chimmist. This I Perceived he took ill; but I had all along observed his opposeing tho not Directly the Raising money for supply, and J[oseph] G[rowdon] took occasion here to Raise a Dispute, which I perceiueing had Diverted us from the matter in hand, I Reminded them of it againe. Then J[oseph] G[rowdon] said they were to go first upon other things which should be for the Good of the Province, and then, slightly Lowring his voyce did as much as say perhaps they might Consider the other afterwards. I replied the Governor was much obliged to him but indeed he has been always postponed, and it has been Customary first to treat ourselves. Thus Ended the forenoons work. Where I observed that Arthur Cook stood for a moderate tax upon Rum as most profitable, and in my Judgment such a rate sett upon all Merchantdise would be best, and not one so great as to Intice the stealing or Cause much Charge in the Collecting, which great Rates generally doe. Before the Councill satt againe I mett Mr. Growdon, spoak very kindly to him offer'd him my Hand. He scarce gave me his but at Length out it Came. I hear said he that the Governor has given my land away to Gray. Its most unworthly don on him, and so run on. I told him he took large liberty with Governors, which I thought was not usuall any where but here and that his quallity might have Commanded Respect. He Repeated it, and said he should not only say so, but write so. In the afternoon the Councill satt againe as per the minutes. Thomas Lloyd there, being newly Come from New York. None agree better than he and I and am Resolved to Continue it if possible. Therefore Sir if in giving you a true Relation of transactions any word may have a show of Reflection upon him pray take no notice of it since I intend it not.

This afternoon was spent in Debate, two things they satt upon one was the order Entred yesterday to send for the Sheriff of Sussex County,⁴⁶ the other whether those Commissioners [who were] mem-

⁴⁶ Francis Cornwell.

bers of Council, Could vote both as members of Council and Commissioners of State.⁴⁷ The first President Lloyd took up, prayed him more than ordinary and opposed all that spoak otherwise of him, and at last Smothed it with a Gratious seeming Compliance. The other he was at a stand, as if his owne Judgment did acquiesce with theirs that thought it not Consistant, and indeed would have Reflected upon him selfe if otherwise, for when President of the Council and Councillor, he often urged them to Choose an other member in his Roome, telling them they wanted a member by it, for he in the station he was in Represented the Governor, so thought it not Consistant to Represent both. Samuel Richardson was much against the Commissioners Representing both saying to this purpose that the Intrest of the Governor and people were opposites. I answered that at Jamaco from whence he came it may be so and the Like at Barbados, Virginia, New York etc., where the Governors are Commissionated for three Years, and Generally for the advance of their fortune. Then Explained as well as I Could the Difference between such a Government and this wee are under. I had almost forgott to tell you a pritty Contrivance of President Lloyds. To please all as he Supposed, for he found John Symcock and Arthur Cook averse to their Laying downe their Councillshipp, and seing with out them their Could not be a Quorum of twelve, proposed to lend the Council two of their members that were Councillors to make up a Quorum in Council, and keep their owne Quorum beside, but the Council adjorned with out the Concluding of anything. The next day which was the 3d of the month they began the same Discourse againe, but John Can Speaking to it said he was now of an other opinion then he was yesterday, for if the Governor has been pleased to trust those the people before had Chosen to be their Representatives, they might Look upon it as a Reputation to themselves. President Lloyd Caught it, and Improved it to the quiett, if not the Satisfaction of all. Upon the Reading of the Petitions, which were generall through the Province to prohibitt Deerskinns going out, they being monopolised, sent away, and Cloathing not to be had for the Inhabitants, they fell in Dispute about makeing of Laws, when was Dropt by

⁴⁷ The Commissioners of State—Thomas Lloyd, Robert Turner, Arthur Cooke, John Simcock, and John Eckley—replaced the Council as Penn's Deputy Governor on February 9, 1687/88. See *Colonial Records (Minutes)*, I, 212. Eckley, a Welsh Quaker, was important in Philadelphia affairs as an officeholder and merchant until his death in 1690.

what accident Know not that in the Commissioners of States Commission was a Restriction therein.⁴⁸ If it Came from a Commissioner it had been better Kept till the bill had been prepared and past tho they had mentioned the Restriction in them. This made them stand Stifly for their Charter and poynt blank said it was a breach of it. I saw none of the Councill but what was in one minde in that. Arther Cook alone with them in opinion, tho very modest in his Expression (This is for want of the Commissioners fully Concludeing of things Relateing to their station amongst them selves before they Come to Councill that they might all speak out of one Mouth, but I believe they will hereafter). I being a member of Councill, and seeing none to back me said little to it, only told them that it was the same thing in other Governments in the absence of their Governors, and Instanced Maryland, which tho they make Laws in their Governors absence, and shall take force, yett they stand or fall as He shall think fitt upon first sight of them. John Can Replyed that it was a Different Case, there the assembly proposed⁴⁹ and here the Governour and Councill proposed. President Lloyd Replyed, I Know not what Instructions you have from the People for makeing of Laws wee have none from the Governor. The Councill being Desirous that such Laws should goe forward as were pet[it]ioned for, Lett drop the argument, and was pleased with the appoyntment of a Committee. The 4th Aprill in the forenoon the Committee brought in what they would have passed, and the whole day passed away in Debateing not above three of their propositions, and no Conclusion made of any. (Which you may see in the Minutes) In the Evening Luke Watson⁵⁰ presented himself to the Councill as a member Chosen, but the Sheriffs Returne not being Come Could not take place. The next day John Hill⁵¹ (who brought a Complaint up against their sheriff) and Luke Watson sent for me out of Councill and Desired me to acquaint the Governor and Councill that they intended homeward tomorrow morning unless they had any service for them. I acquainted President [Lloyd] who had the Chair but he not being willing they

⁴⁸ Reserving for Penn a final veto on legislation.

⁴⁹ That is, initiated legislation.

⁵⁰ Watson was a planter in Sussex County as early as 1677, and during the following three decades a frequent representative to the Council, Assembly, and County Court.

⁵¹ Planter and merchant, Hill served Sussex County during the 1680's and 1690's as sheriff, justice of the peace, register of wills, councilor, assemblyman, and collector of customs at Lewes.

should Come in, Called me a side, Looked over the minutes of 1686 where William Clark had acquainted the Councill that Luke Watsons Brother in Laws servant had Swoaren shee was with Child by Luke Watson, and that the said Brother in Law had swoaren the peace against him, to which Information the Councill in 86 did then Agree that he should be Dismissed untill he had Cleared him selfe of it by Law. This he Desired I would Carry out to show Luke Watson, and in the meantime hastened the adjournment of the Councill (tho indeed the Sun was near sett) least John Hill should Desire the order to the Sheriff upon the Complaint he brought up. The next Day John Hill Came into Councill without sending word, Least he should be putt off again, and Desired an answer to the Complaint. This Caused a long debate againe, the President Resolving to maintaine and Justifie the sheriff mangure [mauger] all mens opinions or votes. Seeing them so sharp one upon the other, and that before John Hill, I desired he might with draw. Then I Delivered my opinion, which as near as I Could was a moderation to theirs. Whereupon they Concluded, that the warrant that was made should not be sent, but that I should send him a mollifieing letter, which I Did and if he be wise and Civill, will answer the Request as soon as the warrant, for his appearance at the General Assembly was all they Desired. John Hill was no sooner gon out of Towne but the Returne of Sussex County Came up in a Letter Directed to the Honorable Thomas Lloyd Deputy Governor and President of the Councill of the Province of Pennsilvania and Territorys. At the Reading this Returne President Lloyd fell to Commending the Sheriff and the Contrary of John Hill, upon which Robert Turner made some Reflection upon the Sheriff. The President takeing it up Caused a Sharper Dispute then Ever I yett saw between them. If you observe the meeting of the Councill of the 6th Aprill in the forenoon you will see that Robert Turner was in the Chear. President Lloyd not Coming to towne soon enough they thought he intended not that morning, but after they were sett he Came, but Robert Turner not Riseing to give him the Chair he went out againe and soon after Robert Turner adjourned the Councill. I thought to have given you a dayly account of their proceedings in Councill besides what the minutes Can informe, but so far impossible it is that I Could not for severall days Digest anything don to make a Minute of it. Such a Confusion have wee been in, such tedious prolix Speeches have wee had; that I begged the President to appoynt the

17th April to meet to sett things to Rights fitt for the Record of which you may Expect by this the originall or Coppy. Upon the 6th April Mr. Gray Came to towne about his Land he purchased of you. I Mean the overplus land of Dunk Williams and Walker; I found by the Backwardness of my Brethern the President and Judges had been tampering with them as they had Endeavoured with me, and when I urged the Governors orders or Instructions to Samuel Carpenter he asked me if wee must observe all or none. Yes said I for wee must not pick and Choose what is easie and pleasant to us and leave the rest for himselfe to doe. Yett they pressed so hard upon me to give Joseph Growdon a hearing, before they passed the warrant for the Returne of the warrant granted by the former Commissioners that I Did. But J[oseph] G[rowdon] had little to say but that he had an Equitable Right, and that such rights the Proprietary had Confirmed by Charter. The next day he being in Councill saw Mr. Gray Come into the Yard to Speak with me. As I went into my office Joseph Growdon followed me, told me that he Expected wee would not Confirme that land to Mr. Gray for if wee did he would make a Nationall business of it and Impeach us for a breach of the Charter, and there upon read to me that part, which he had written upon a piece of paper where you Confirme any mans Equitable Right to Land. But I know the occasion and Intent of that graunt. I only told him, that they had broaken the Charter all to pieces already and that this would not be the way to peace it againe, for if he Impeached us I was Resolved the Governor should Come in for his share. This day Mr. Gray had an opportunity to Deliver his message from you to the Commissioners of State. They were pleased to Call me in. He did it very well and President Lloyd as the mouth of the Rest made a Reply to most of the Heads, as to that wherein he told me that the Governor had not heard from his Government one time since he went to England, tho from them all he might have single letters, and one says alls well, and an other Contradicts it so he knew not which to Credit. This said Mr. Gray was not only taken as a disrespect, but it was of great Disservice to the Province, and then Explained how. The President to this made answer, that he had writt to the Governor, and in the Station he was here in, Cheiff in authority, the account he gave of things might well be Received as from the Government, if not in these very words to this very purpose. He went on much further magnifieing himself; and indeed its very strange Sir I speak

not this out of any prejudice to President Lloyd tho I have little Reason to be very obligeing to him, but you will finde his hand not to anything where any one Else signes, or at Least since I have been Concerned as Secretary. For when I have desired him to signe a Pattent, he would say that his hand was to be to nothing under the broad seal, but now thats altered, and the broad seal passes without any hand to it, as in the Commission for the State. Upon the 12 April I writt a Commission of the peace for New Castle County presented it to him to signe. He gave it to John Symcock. John Desired he would signe it first. He Replyed you may leave me Roome [and] so perswaded J[ohn] S[imcock] Arther Cook and John Eckly to Signe and haveing three hands to it the business was done which when they perceived said they would not have signed if they had thought he would have served them so. He replyed *hos Ego versucutos feci* etc. and Englished it thus, tho I take the paines you shall have the Honor. The Indians being lately payed by Governor Cox's Agent⁵² sent down to us before they sepperated to have what wee owed them which I am sure all the Cargo you sent was not able to Discharge. I have Inclosed sent an account what was due to them and what wee purchased here. The Blankitts and Gunns wee had of Zacharich Whitpaine, which must be paid in money here or Bills of Exchange for England, which amounts to thirty od pounds. And I see no likelihood of paying there tho I shall not Draw till the Last Extremity forces me. Capt. Holme and Samuel Carpenter went up to pay them which was don the 21 April. Wee have an other payment to make to the Indians of Christina⁵³ then shall be out of the Indians Debts. I Could not be at the paying [my]self the Councill haveing so lately sat, and my promise to wayte on the Judges to Kent County for the Tryall of Roe and his Wife.⁵⁴ Upon the 24th Aprill I went with the Judges Arthur Cook, and John Symcock, the Attorney Generall⁵⁵ and some others from Philadelphia. The 27th wee arrived

⁵² Capt. Jacques LeTort, a French Huguenot. Daniel Coxe, by virtue of his purchase of the rights of government from Edward Byllynge, was now governor of West New Jersey. Coxe was only one of the early entrepreneurs who at this time was engaged in an attempt to gain control of the Iroquois Indian trade. Zimmerman, "Daniel Coxe and the New Mediterranean Sea Company"; Evelyn A. Benson, "The Huguenot Le Torts; First Christian Family on the Conestoga," *Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society*, LXV (1961), 92-105.

⁵³ Probably the Brandywine Lenape Indians from whom the land between Chester and Duck Creeks had been purchased on Sept. 29, 1685.

⁵⁴ Judith and George Roe of Kent County.

⁵⁵ David Lloyd.

in Dover River with the Letitia.⁵⁶ By the way had wee more Discourse about Grey and Growdon. I perceive it sticks in their stomachs still. They Informe that Joseph Growdons father had writt to him that if he misliked being here or not treated according to Expectation he should sell all and Returne home for he had an Estate sufficient to maintaine him. I am sure this Letter could not be Occasioned by the Disposall of the Land to Gray for thats but new. But great fear there is of his going home as the Judges Report. I here send you a Coppy of the Promulgated bills. I am of opinion none of them will pass. Its Impossible to gitt anything by Custome on merchant-dise Imported or Exported unless you gett the same laws passed in west Jersey for they will load and unload there as they please and wee loose the trade by it. If you and Governor Cox should agree about it pray remember that the officers Commissionate by Either of you may seise in Either of your Provinces tho the Goods were shipt or unshipt in the Province the officer that seised was not off. Yett that officer shall have the same priviledg as if he were but the tryall may be as you Can agree off. Otherwise there will be such Contention as the Profit will not Ballance.

The 30th Aprill the Judges satt. The woman was Indicted for murdering an unknowne person. The Cheif witnesses were her owne Children, a girle between 14 and 15 years old two sonns of 9 and 8. The youngest saw his mother strike the man and Kill him with an ax, the man being in bed. The other son was a sleep at that time, but saw the man lie dead on the Ground and both of them saw her take money out of his pockett tye a Rope about the Mans middle, and dragg'd him by his owne horse tayl to a branch that is mighty mirey. The Girle was not then at home, but soon after Came and had occasion to goe to the branch for water, where seeing a mans head above the mudd took it for a turtle, putt her hand upon it, and the Hair stook in her fingers. Shee was frighted at it, left her payl and Ran to her mother, acquainted her that there was a mans head above the mudd in the branch. She Charged her Daughter to say nothing of it for if shee did, shee should not have her blessing. Her mother went with a felling Ax in her hand stayed about 2 or 3 hours, afterwards they heard no more of it. George Roe the Houseband who was Indicted as an abettor was at that time at work at his Brother

⁵⁶ A sloop named for Penn's daughter, wife of William Aubrey of London.

[in-law] John Richardson⁵⁷ (for Roes Wife is John Richardson owne sister) and it was almost a weak after before he came home, but then seeing some blood upon the bedpost asked the youngest son how it Came there. The Child told him that his mother had been fighting with a man and had Cutt his head with an Ax. This Roe Confessed upon his tryall, but the Child said he then told his father, his Mother had killed the man. The Court asked Roe why he did not Inquire further off it. He said his Wife was a furious Woman and he was affraide. He confessed that as soon as he Came home he desired his wife to wash his Blew shirt and she fetched him a fine shirt to shift himselfe with and an holland Capp to putt on when he asked where shee had them, she replied what need you Care. But her pretense to the Court, was, a man travelling that way had Corne for his horse and haveing no Money left them. But the Linnen was made away with. I wish I Could send you a Coppy of the Tryall, for I am now in hast. Cannot Enlarge the Judges Ready to be gon. The woman has Received sentence of Death pronounced by John Symcock. The man is Brought in not Guilty, in manner and forme but fearing other Indictments, for Breaking prison twice etc. begged transportation which was granted by the first Shipping to the West Indies. John King goes for England hence in 3 weeks time. Zachariah Whitpaine in Little more. By Either or both I shall not faile to writ; My Humble service pray Sir to My Cousens and pardon Errours being writt in Hurry. I Remaine

Sir Your Very Humble

and obliged

Servant

William Markham

Dover River in The
Territorys of Pennsilvania
May 2d, 1688

I have sent Sir a Coppy of Governor Dongans Letter to the President and Councill etc.⁵⁸ President Lloyd was forced to sign the answer for the others would not sighne without him tho he Indevoured to persuade it. Farwell Sir

Will

⁵⁷ Merchant and planter of New Castle County, member of the Assembly in 1688 and 1697.

⁵⁸ Markham probably refers to Governor Dongan's letter of Apr. 15, 1687, in *PMHB*, XI (1887), 241-242.

HISTORICAL CHRONICLE.

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From *New-England*, That a great Number of Vessels have been lost on that Coast in several Storms this Winter. That a sudden Thaw of the first Snow had done great Damage in the Country, by occasioning the Rivers to over-flow their Banks. And that the Frost has since been more violent than has been known for many Years; the Harbour of *Boston* being frozen firmly as far as the Castle, the Ice reckoned near three Foot thick.

From *New-York*, that the Severity of the Winter had reduc'd the Poor in that City to great Extremities; and that near 700 *l.* had been rais'd by a charitable Collection, and distributed among them. That in the Beginning of this Month, a Canoe, with a Woman and Child at her Breast, and five Men in it, was jam'd in with the Ice, and drove to *Coney-Island*, where they were all froze to Death.

PHILADELPHIA.

The General Assembly of this Province met on the 5th Instant, and adjourn'd to the 20th of April.

Tuesday and *Wednesday* the 6th and 7th Instant, were generally thought to be the coldest Days we have had these many Years. The River is fast shut up with Ice, and so firm, that Sleds loaded with Wood for this City cross it daily. The Poor of this City suffering extremely by the unusual Hardness of the Winter; a large Collection has been made for them, and Money, Wood, &c. distributed among them.

January 8. Great Quantities of *English* Half-Pence being imported here, since the falling of our Exchange, to be pass'd as Pennies, some considerable Dealers were apprehensive we should be overstock'd with them, and began last Week to refuse them otherwise than at the Rate of five for four Pence. Their Example being follow'd by many of the Shopkeepers, while others continued to take them for Pence apiece, it occasion'd considerable Confusion in small Dealings. And the Bakers refusing to make any more Bread 'till the Money was settled, the Mob rose on *Friday* Night and went round the Town breaking the Windows of several Merchants and others, and very much disturbed the City. They began to assemble again the Night following; but by the Vigilance and Resolution of some of the Magistrates, they were timely suppress'd, and the City has since remain'd quiet.

Jan. 29. We hear from *Bucks County*, that the *Delaware* broke up in the late Thaw; and brought down the Ice of 100 Miles with it, which stopp'd about three Miles below *Trenton*, and is thrown in Heaps from thence twelve Miles upwards, and near twenty Foot high. That in some Places the River is turn'd out of its Bed, and flows over the low Lands, doing great Damage. The Water rose in some Places thirty Foot.

We hear that Admiral *Vernon* has wrote to the Governors of the the *Northern Colonies*, desiring they would not suffer any Vessels to clear out, without giving Bond to return Certificates that they have not delivered their Cargoes at any of the *French* or *Dutch* Settlements; lest the *French* and *Spanish* Fleets, who are in great Want, should by their Means be supply'd with Provisions.

THE ROSA SINE SPINA.

One Type. One Variety. Excessively rare.

This dateless coin, of uncertain origin, has been confounded with the Rosa Americana Series, being sometimes mistaken for the Two-pence of 1733, the reverse of which it somewhat resembles.

Obverse: Laureated head of king George I facing right. Legend: "GEORGIUS·DEI·GRATIA·REX."

Reverse: A rose bush planted in the earth, bearing at the top a full-blown rose; below are two stems, each bearing a closed bud, and a bud half opened. Legend: "ROSA·SINE·SPINA." Border, beaded; Size, $16\frac{1}{2}$; weight, 120 grains.

There are two coins, a medal, and the reverse of another piece somewhat similar to the Rosa Sine Spina, and supposed to belong to the same coinage. Obverse: Almost identical with the Rosa Sine Spina. Reverse: A sceptre and trident crossed, interlaced with a three-looped cord, with pendant tassels. Legend: REGIT :: VNVS :: VTROGVE :: The largest coin is the only known specimen; others may be found in Europe perhaps. Size, $17\frac{1}{2}$; weight, 127 grains. The small coin is described as half the size. The date of the metal referred to is 1628. Though diligently sought by all collectors of coins struck in or for America, the Rosa Sine Spina is seldom seen even in the best cabinets. But three or four can be found in the United States.

LAWS OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The colony of Pennsylvania made no provision for a local coinage, but the authorities passed a number of orders and laws directed to the regulation of the value of copper coin, and the abolition of base coin, as well as the severe punishment of counterfeiters. In 1741, English Half-pence were decreed to pass at the rate of fifteen to the shilling. By this means it was proposed to prevent the importation of great quantities of these Half-pence, as had been the practice, to the

depletion of the province of large amounts of gold and silver money. However, certain "uneasy and ill disposed Persons," were not content with so high a valuation of the Half-pence, and declining to receive them, were denounced by the Mayor and Commonalty of Philadelphia as disturbers of the public peace.

Any person convicted of counterfeiting any coin of gold or silver in the province of Pennsylvania, was doomed to suffer death without the benefit of clergy, and any person knowingly passing such counterfeits, was on conviction thereof, to be sentenced to stand in the pillory for the space of one hour, having both their ears cut off and nailed to the pillory, and beside, receive twenty-one lashes in public on the bare back, and also pay one hundred pounds as a fine, one-half to go to the use of the Governor, and one half to the informer, with costs and charges of prosecution assessed upon the convict.

In July 14th, 1781, the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, issued a Proclamation prohibiting the issue and circulation of base coin "in the similitude of British half-pence, but much inferior in value and weight to the genuine." From this cause, this coin was depreciated to the enhancement of the necessities of life, and the great distress of many, especially among the poorer classes. Genuine British Half-pence, made at the Tower, were made forty-eight to the pound. Those of the base sort were made at Birmingham, England, seventy-two of them, or even more, being minted from a pound of copper, which metal could at that date be purchased in America for one-eighth of a dollar a pound. Thus the base coinage was imposed upon the people of the provinces, at about six times the intrinsic value of the material from which the coins were produced. There was no method by which to learn the amount of such currency imported to the Confederate States of America during the decade succeeding the war of the Revolution. Sundry shipments were reported to the value of a thousand guineas each, and it was stated that no packet arrived from England, with-

out some hundred weight of the base Half-pence. It was officially estimated that the loss to the country at large by this "commerce of vile coin," was not less than thirty thousand dollars per annum—a very large sum for the times. In view of these facts, and the consequent disappearance to a large extent, of standard coins of the more valuable metals, the subject of a copper coinage of a national character was suggested at an early date to the financiers of the country, and for action, to the Congress of the American Confederation.

PROPOSED COINAGE FOR PENNSYLVANIA.

In April 5th, 1786, Thomas Smyth, Jr., and Thomas Harwood 3rd, citizens of Maryland, who represented themselves as the owners of rich mines of silver and copper in that state, offered a petition to the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, asking an exclusive, yet limited right of coinage for the state, the currency produced to be one-fourth as much silver as copper, the coins of either metal to be equal in purity and weight to any circulating at the time in America, the copper coins in particular to be equal if not superior to those made at Tower Hill, London. The petition was awarded a reading, but no decided action was taken by the Assembly in the case, nor does it appear that any subsequent effort was ever made to establish a coinage in the state of Pennsylvania.

2a
(Balance of article under Fugio file.)

This portion quoted in AJN Vol.18 p.44 Oct 1883 with the citation printed as 1875 in error

" When the American copper coin is to be struck, it will be necessary, that the genuine British halfpence, or coppers, should pass current here, at ~~11~~ 112½ to the dollar, or 15 to the shilling ; which is only 4 1/6 per cent more than the rate at which they circulate in Britain. The circulation of the Birmingham , and other counterfeit and base copper coin, should be totally suppressed, whereby an end would be put to the iniquitous of importing into this country (or manufacturing here) such base coin, and purchasing gold and silver with it, of near four times its intrinsic value (comparing their nominal sums) for exportation; a trade which is carried to a most alarming height, and attended with very dangerous consequences."

This article was written in Phila Aug 22, 1785 and submitted in Congress and published in broadside

John Beale Bordley (moved to Phila. in 1791)
was from Maryland. (He lived on Wye Island)
and came often to Phila. after he married a Mifflin
in 1776.

Pa. Mag. of Hist. & Biography, Vol. LXVI, 1. c. 414
p. 410-415

This confirms his authorship of "On Monies, Coins,
Weights & Meausres".

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On Monies, Coins, Weights and Measures,
proposed for the United States of America
By John Beale Bordley (1727-1804)

Philadelphia, Printed by Daniel Humphreys, in Front Street
near the Drawbridge 1789

p.12

COPPER COINS

A TREATISE on copper coin, as far as I know, is a new thing. There are reasons why these coins ought to be limited in their power. If they were to have the power to sink debts, as gold and silver have, they would be used vexatiously; and that would affect credits. Even if the forcing them in payments should be confined to 5 per cent. of debts, or be at all allowed of, it would have that tendency; and a creditor receiving a debt of 10,000 dollars, each cent thereof weighing 140 grains, at 5 per centum, would be burdened with 500 dollars worth, that is 50,000 pieces of copper of the weight of 1000 avoirdupois pounds; which selling as old copper, although it be at 20 cents a pound, would make a loss of 20,000 cents on his whole claim; and moreover would burden him with cartage, storage, and expences of sales; so that near 3 per cent. of his debt would be lost: which would affect commerce, especially with foreigners. An ordinance of the late Congress, enacts that the treasury, and if I rightly understand it, the proprietors of bullion carried to the mint, shall be paid 5 per cent. of their claims in copper cents. Ought those who carry bullion to the mint, to be burdened with inconvenience?

It is said, the late Congress contracted for copper, to be coined at their mint and issued as above; and their ordinance seems to intend that the public mint shall have the coining of copper cents. It is proper it should be so, exclusively. Having found from the report of a committee of the General Assembly of New York, in 1787, that the best red copper in sheets costs, at the factories in England, 11d sterling a pound; on which they

say the charges are 20 to 25 per cent. and that copper in mass, or old copper to be melted into ingots and drawn into sheets in the plating mills costs 9d sterling - charges included, I thereon make an estimate of the cost in coining copper cents, of 50 to the pound of copper, for a dollar worth 50d. sterling, thus: for a pound of copper, 24 cents; coining, 12 cents; together 36 cents, the cost. The pound of copper so coined passes for 50 cents. - The ordinance of the late Congress says, $2\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. of copper shall be coined into 100 cents, (for a dollar of the value of $52d.\frac{46}{100}$ sterling value) at which rate each cent weighs $157\frac{1}{2}$ grains. The old English halfpennies, I suspect, weigh about 166 grains. I have one which weighs 156 grains and appears to be true Tower coin, such as were not uncommon fifty years since; it is, however, so worn that the impressions are nearly lost: it therefore may be presumed that it weighed 8 or 10 grains more when new: the Britannia side is quite smooth - the other side faintly shews the impression of a head or heads in the manner of a William and Mary halfpence. The New-York committee further report, that 48 genuine British halfpence, when new, weigh 1 lb. avoirdupois, each piece 146 grains; 60 Birmingham coppers, are 1 lb. or $116\frac{1}{2}$ grains each: and $46\frac{4}{10}$ genuine Jersey coppers are 1 lb. or 151 grains, each.*

The thought entertained by some of making the copper cent to be of intrinsic value, is alarming; as it threatens a design to enforce a base and cumbersome metal in discharge of debts. The copper cent in that case must be $2\frac{1}{2}$ times as large as is proposed at present, or 350 grains. Why encrease an odium, or over busily adventure on a hazardous innovation in a delicate affair?

Copper coin, from the baseness of its metal, is not proper for a money to be forced on creditors. It is to be considered merely as a convenient substitute in the closing a pay-

ment, for want of silver coin small enough for minute fractional purposes: as such it is voluntarily received. Hucksters choose to receive it, as do others, occasionally, in small sums as is convenient to them. There would be no need of copper coins, were it not that cents and pence would be in too small pieces, for preservation, when in silver; wherefore the base and bulky metal was introduced, merely for small change. If, however it shall be thought proper to give to copper any force, - which it is wished may be never attempted, it ought to be, if possible, without injury or alarm to creditors. Forced payments in copper may in that case be limited to 5 or at most 9 cents on the close of full payments, large or small: on the payment of 10,000 dollars, no more to be forced on the creditor than in a case of the least sum; because there is true and honest money in gold and silver of standard intrinsic value as low as ten or 5 cents, and the coppers are no further useful than for closing the fractional balance. If the necessity of a copper coinage can be avoided, it may be considered how far it would answer to coin cents in pieces of silver, whose periphery is enlarged by forming them into a sort of rings with milled edges or coined surfaces: or rather the composition called billon may be coined, solid as are common copper halfpence: it is more valuable than copper alone, being of copper and silver, yet bulky enough to be easily preserved. A billon-cent of a 50d. dollar, half copper and half silver, which is the exact mint alloy for fine gold would be near as large as a quarter of a Spanish dollar. But copper cents, the size, very nearly of an English halfpenny, with its division into half pieces of 5 mills, are preferable to billon cents, and to small rings worth a cent each, as these would be too slender. The half cent in copper would be about the size of a farthing English.

On the whole of what I can collect concerning copper coins, it seems, they do not pass so much because of their small

intrinsic worth, as by common consent induced by a degree of necessity, merely as they are tokens for fractional sums which cannot be well issued in real money of the precious metals. This inference is countenanced by the considerable deviations in their weights, when issued even by the authority of nations tenacious of their character. English halfpennies of pure copper have been issued from the English mint of the contents of 156, if not 166, down to 146 grains, as they now are and have been upwards of sixty years: and base copper issued by private coiners light as 116 grains, by consent, have passed currently as the best, to a vast amount, and great loss of the community. The quantity of metal appointed by public authority to be contained in copper coins, being a good deal arbitrary, the American States may have their cent coin, of fine copper, that shall nearly have the weight of a British halfpenny: The British halfpenny weighs 146 grains of fine copper.

Two pounds of copper will give 100 cents, eight weighing 140 grains. The cents, for a device, may have a man, on one side of them, erect, comfortably cloathed, and holding a spade in his hand: read, - Fro. Indust. Cents beco. Eag. - On the reverse, of this base coin - a coin that cannot well be deemed money, instead of the eagle let there be, on the margin of the cent, this reading: - "United States of America"; - and in the middle of the piece read - "Cent". There will be a fair blank between the readings: which may be lightly ornamented or left blank, or crowded in Gothic taste - if it be the taste.

B.

Footnote on page 14.

* The undermentioned copper coins, weigh as follows:

	A.D.	Gra.
Produit des mines de France	1727	- 182
Liard de France	1698	- 54
Vir ginia halfpenny	1773	- 120
U.S.	1783	- 145
1/4 Stuber	1764	- 38
+ Spanish milled piece	1774	- 174
English halfpenny, worn smooth		- 156
‡ Ditto, new and bright, never circulated	1729	- 146
# Eight Birmingham coppers, average		- 116
+ Quere, whether this piece is of the composition called billon?		
‡ This is from a barrel of halfpence imported by the late Mr. Bennet of Wye, from England, above 40 years ago; and I am favoured with it by his executor.		
# The fairest sort of Birmingham coppers that are now in circulation. - The coined impressions are good and plain. Two of them shew partial marks of sand: - therefore, I presume, they are first cast into blanks of the proper size, and then coined; which saves expense of rolling the copper into plates, cutting them, &c.		

New York, Sept. 8, 1750

Mr. Parker,

Please to insert the following Lines in your next Monday's, ~~Post~~
Boy, wherein you will oblige many of the Merchants of this city,
and particularly, Your humble Servant, A. B.

It is the Opinion of a considerable Number of the Merchants of this City, That Means ought to be used, to prevent the future Importation of English Half pence into this Colony; and indeed the bad Effects occasioned by having ~~so~~ great a Quantity of Half pence among us, are too evident, and the Inconveniences too frequent, to leave it in almost any Man's Power to be of ^{any} contrary Way of thinking. The only Means that have yet been proposed to answer the desired End, is, to reduce the Value of Half-pence so low, that no Advantage can be made by importing them. Had ~~our~~ Had our Legislature when they passed the Act to prevent the Importation of Publick Half pence, reduced the Value to a proper Medium, so as to leave no Room for any Profit to the Importer; the Act would doubtless have had the desired effect, which now has proved ineffectual. At Philadelphia when a much less Quantity of Half Pence were passing there for more than their Value, heavy Complaints were made, and the Consequences dreaded; and despairing of a Remedy by Law, the Merchants made a mutual Promise not to receive or pass any Half pence, at any other Rate than Fifteen to the Shilling, which soon had the desired Effect; and the same Resolution here would doubtless produce the same End.

It has been proposed to reduce Half pence to Thirteen to the Shilling, which it was conceived would prevent the further Importation: But upon further Consideration it appeared evident, that that Medium could not answer the End proposed by such Reduction, since even at Thirteen to the Shilling the neighbouring Colonies would have a manifest Advantage by sending us their Half pence. At Philadelphia they pass at Fifteen to the Shilling, so that a Profit of about 17 per C. now remains to the Importers of Half pence from thence. The Difference between Boston and this Place is about 12½ per C. in favour of the Importer; Then how can it be expected that a Reduction of about 8 per C. will prevent the Importation. At Fourteen to the Shilling it is thought that the Importation will be effectually prevented; as then they can't be imported from London with any Profit: Here and at Philadelphia they will pass nearly at a Par; and at Boston somewhat at a higher Rate than here. As it is generally thought convenient to have some Half pence among us, this Medium of Fourteen to the Shilling will equally prevent the Exportation and Importation, since then we can't export them to the neighbouring colonies with any Profit, except to Boston; and we are in no great Danger of sending Money thither, many of our Commodities answering better.

About thirty Merchants of this City have agreed to meet at the Merchants Coffe House, on Tuesday the 11th Instant, at 12 o'clock, to sign an Instrument to oblige themselves not to take or pass any Half pence, otherwise than at the Rate of Fourteen to the Shilling. All Merchants and others inclined to favour so good a Design, are desired to meet at the Time and Place aforesaid, to enter into the said Engagement; which it is not doubted will be readily done by all Well Wishers to this Colony, and the Trade thereof.

*NY Post Boy
Sept 10, 1750*

PENNSY JOURNAL & THE WEEKLY ADVERTISER

July 29, 1789

(Copy of N.Y.Common Council 48 to a shilling order of July 21,1789)

July 20, 1789 N.Y.

"A correspondent observes that the confusion, and consequent distress occasioned by the sudden stoppage to the circulation of copper coin, are subjects that call for the immediate attention of authority; The poorer class of citizens are particularly affected by this circumstance, many of whom had their little all invested in this most uncertain of all human possessions - a fluctuating medium: Many of the retail shops are shut: The cries are suspended in the streets, and it is with difficulty the poor can purchase bread of the bakers, or vegetables in the market: This evil has been long foreseen, and yet the base trumpery called coppers (greatly inferior to Wood's infamous brass money) has been pouring in upon us like a flood for many months past: Many of the merchants and shop keepers, it is said, have large sums by them of this coin, by which they will be great sufferers.

PENNSY JOURNAL & THE WEEKLY ADVERTISER

July 29, 1789

Phila. July 29

Great quantities of trumpery, called COPPERS, are daily brought into this city from sundry places: In New York they are refused at 45 for a shilling: and, we are told, do actually pass at 55 and 60 - this may shew the estimation in which they are held there, and guard the people here from an imposition which may prove most injurious.

Aug. 22, 1787 PENN. GAZETTE

Aug. 22, 1787 PENNSY JOURNAL& THE WEEKLY ADVERTISER

New York Aug. 15

We think it necessary thus timely to remind our readers, that on the 16th of October last, Congress resolved that no foreign copper coin whatsoever, shall after the first of September, 1787, be current within the United States; And that no copper coin struck under the authority of a particular state, shall pass at a greater value than one foederal dollar for two pounds and one quarter of a pound avoirdupois weight of such copper coin.

6/8/59

May 21, 1948

THE NUMISMATIST - Vol. XLI, No. 6, p. 337, being the issue for June, 1928.

"WHEN COPPERS WERE 'LIGHT AND BAD.'

"The following extract from a letter of Paine Wingate, of New Hampshire, to Mrs. H. Wingate may interest numismatics. It is dated New York, August 1, 1789, and was recently copied in Bulletin No. 9 of Mr. W. R. Benjamin, the autograph dealer:

"There has been a mighty convulsion here lately on account of the coppers. We abound with them in this place and they were generally light and bad. On a sudden the merchants refused to take them at more than half, and some at more than one-third, that they had passed at. At Philadelphia I hear they have fared much in the same manner."

Harrold E. Gillingham "COUNTERFEITING IN COLONIAL PENNSYLVANIA"
American Numismatic Society - Numismatic Notes and Monographs -
New York, 1939. p 51

On June 17, 1788, Robert Henderson, a Philadelphia merchant, wrote to David Lamb of Charleston: "I am sorrie that you have as many Coppers on hand they will not do here as their (sic) is 24 of them to the Shilling here it was on Acc^t of so many bad ones that they were raised to that Am^t". 65

65 Letter Book of Robert Henderson, Collection of
The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

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(65) Letter Book of Robert Henderson, Collection of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

July 17, 1783 PENNSY JOURNAL AND THE WEEKLY ADVERTISER

Philadelphia

A correspondent desires the printer to inform the public that bad halfpence in imitation of coppers are circulating; they are easily known from the genuine coppers, as they are of base metal cast in sand, filed round the edges and in some the gate may be distinguished by which the metal entered in casting. From the fresh marks of the file, there is reason to suppose they were made in this city!!

6/8/59

July 17, 1783

Pennsy Journal and the
Weekly Advertiser

Philadelphia

A correspondent desires the printer to inform the public that bad halfpence, in imitation of coppers are circulating; they are easily known from the genuine coppers, as they are of base metal cast in sand, filed ~~around~~ round the edges and in some the gate may be distinguished by which the metal entered in casting. From the fresh marks of the file, there is reason to suppose they were made in this city!!

Pennsy Journal & The Weekly Advertiser
July 29 1789

10
11

~~New York July 18 1789 July 20~~

~~July 20~~

Copy of N.Y. Common Council 48 to a shilling order
7 July 21. 1789

July 20 1789 N.Y.

A correspondent observes that the confusion, and consequent distress occasioned by the sudden stoppage ^{to the circulation} of copper coin, are subjects that call for the immediate attention of authority; the poorer classes of citizens are particularly affected by this circumstance, many of whom had their little all invested in this most uncertain of all human possessions - a fluctuating medium: Many retail shops are shut: the cries are suspended in the streets, and it is with difficulty the poor can purchase bread of the bakers, or vegetables in the market: this evil has been long foreseen, and yet the base trumpery called coppers (greatly inferior to Wood's infamous brass money) has been pouring in upon us like a flood for many months past: Many of the merchants and shop keepers, it is said, have large sums by them of this coin, by which they will be great sufferers.

Pennsy Journal & The Weekly Advertiser July 29 1789
Phila July 29

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On June 17, 1788 Robert Henderson
a Philadelphia merchant wrote
to David Lamb of Charleston

"I am sorrie that you have
as many Coppers on hand
they will not do here as
there is 24 of them to the
Shilling here it was on
Acct of so many bad
one that they were raised
to that Amt "

from

Letter Book of Robert Henderson
Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Quoted in

Harold E. Shellingham

Counterfeiting in Colonial Pennsylvania

ANS # 86 (1939) p 51

from Original manuscript of
John Fanning Watson
for "Annals of Philadelphia"
(owned by Historical Society of Pennsylvania)

" To the Generall Assembly now Sitting
the petition of Sundry the Inhabitants
of this province most humbly Sheweth

WHEREAS your petitioners being Inhabitants
of this province and being given to understand
that there is great Quantities of Lead and
 pewter farthings ~~and~~ + half pence whereby
your petitioners are likely to be much
Damaged by Reason such great ~~quantities~~
Quantities are liable to be Crowded upon us

" Now these are to Protest & humbly Intersect
that you would be pleased to make an act
of Assembly That all such farthings & half pence
that are made of Lead & pewter may be wholly
suppressed & Cried Down and only those of
Copper which are the Kings Coyne may pass
the farthings for two a penny & the halfpence
for a penny Philadelphia the twenty
first of the third month 1698 "

(Signed by 53 citizens)

This is taken from Harold Kellinham
"City in Colonial Pa" Am Num Soc
Notes & Mono No 86 p 647

check Po Mag of Hist & Biography
Apr 1931 Jan 1933 July 1933.

Philadelphia April 7

* * * *

" A petition was on Tuesday last presented to the Assembly from two gentlemen of Maryland praying an Act to grant them an exclusive right of mining a certain sum of silver and copper (produced from mines in this country) which it is to be hoped the legislature will assent to, both on account of the scarcity of specie and the great quantity of Birmingham and other base coppers that are in circulation, which if not stopped in time by some means, must, before long, occasion great loss to the state "

Chronicles of Pennsylvania by Charles P. Keith

Sept 1917

P. 161

On Sept 1700 there was a meeting in New

York

Gov Wm Penn of Pa

Gov Nicholson of Md

Gov Hamilton of N.Y.

Earl of Bellomont Gov of N.Y. Mass etc

and

Wm Penn proposed standard value of
foreign coin so that piece of eight wouldnt pass

for 6 sh in Mass

6 sh 9 d in NY

7 sh 8 d in Pa + N.Y.

4 sh 6 d in Md

5 sh in Va

also proposed the establishment of a mint
in New York for small silver coins to
value of 6 d. — this was to mean up to value
of 6 d, not down to 6 d.

P. 171

Change in Pa Loan Office trustees in 1730

P. 673

~~and~~ Discussion of paper money — very poor but long

English $\frac{1}{2}$ d circulating in
America

Num Review Vol 4 ~~No 1~~ Jan 1947

p 5

English + Irish $\frac{1}{2}$ d circulated in Pa
Many found on farm of L. B. Huber between Lewis Valley & Eden
~~Mountains 1744~~ on Hanheim Trwp. Mottos are
Georgius II or III Rex, Britannia and Hibernia
(No variations or evasions) dug up "of late years
before 1746"
says Pa Gazette ~~as discussed~~ 1741 law
settling use of $\frac{1}{2}$ d at 15 to shilling

"Money used in Lancaster County,
Pennsylvania"

by C. H. Martin

reprinted from Lancaster County Hist Society
Vol XXX No 2 ~~1924~~ 1926

This title should be checked

Feb 22, 1787 Ramsay Journ + The Genl Adver
the following is nearly the current prices of Certificates and other ^{used}
~~for the~~ ^{for the} Intelligence Office, Chestnut St near the Bank

" Continental Money, 15 s. per 1000 Dollars "

There is a certain ~~Tax~~ ^{tax} yet due to this
Commonwealth by individuals; in Payment of
which, 175 Dollars Continental is taken for
one Dollar "

Dollar Money, from 12 to 15 per cent
+ + +

Shilling Money, ~~and~~ 3/4ths, and one
and 5/8ths for one

+ + +

~~Francis~~ Francis White

Pennsy Journal + the Weekly Advertiser
Dec 11, 1784 } London date line - Sept 30

The English guineas in America are
cut down to the value of 12s, with a
view to prevent their return. This however
answers no purpose, as they continue to be
taken by weight, according to the British
standard, and therefore find their way home
though in a shabby sort of cropped and
mutilated condition."

Advertisement in August 14, 1789 Pennsylvania Gazette

SMALL CHANGE
Equal to GOLD or SILVER

Bank of North America, August 6 1789

SIR

Agreeable to a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Bank of North America, this day made, you are requested, and fully authorized to print, for the use of said Bank, a number of Tickets of the denomination of Three-Ninetieths of a Dollar, equal to Three Pence Specie, and a certain number of tickets of the denomination of One-Ninetieth part of a Dollar, equal to One Penny Specie, by which the Bank promises to pay^{to} the Bearer on demand the sums therein severally mentioned. Each Ticket is to bear date the 6th of August, 1789, and at the foot of each, the name of Tench Francis, Cashier to be printed. As this resolution has been taken merely for the public convenience at this juncture, when the circulation of Copper Coin is nearly suspended it is hoped the measure will be approved of, and for the redemption in Specie of such Notes or Tickets as you shall print in pursuance of these directions, the Bank of North America will hold itself bound.

For the President, Directors and Company of the Bank
of North America
(Signed) THOMAS WILLING, President

To Mr. Benjamin Franklin Bache

AGREEABLY to the foregoing Commission, a quantity of Small Promissory Notes, payable to the Bearer, or demand, are ready to be disposed of at the Bank, in quantities amounting to one or more dollars to one person.

August 12

July 28, 1787 Pennsy Jour & the ^{Weekly} ~~Ad~~ Ad

Phila July 28

"We learn also from the same authority, that there is a vast sum of base copper in circulation in England, to the amount of several hundreds of thousands of pounds; they were very lately refused every where, and it is suspected they will be purchased for a trifle, and sent to the United States."

Jan 16, 1754 Letter from Phila
in NY Gazette of Jan 21, 1754

"There has not been the least Talk here
of taking the Pence at Twelve & a Shilling;
but people would rather have them to Eighteen
for a Shilling - And if they should then be
a sort of ~~them~~ Change to Print a
number of Penny Tickets."

Selsware

J.T. Scharf

Thompson Westcott

Hist of Phila (Vol III p 2085)

~~after~~ Dec, 1723 Act

"and the following merchants and business people of Phila agreed to take the paper money of New Castle and the lower ~~the~~ counties at par"

(list of over 100 names)

This dates the Dick Farmer broadside on 1/2d

the owned by Library Co of Phila

History of Philadelphia, Phila 1884
by J. Thomas Scharf + Thompson Westcott

Vol III p 2085

Paper currency sought by petition of people
for want of a medium to buy + sell with
on Jan 2, 1723.

On March 2, 1723 15000 £ of paper money
authorized

On Feb 5, 1723 ^{country} produce was made a lawful
tender

On Dec 1723 £ 30000 more was authorized
" and the following merchants and business people
of Phila agreed to take the paper money of New Castle
and the Lower counties at par: "
(list of over 100 names)

no
citation
given

Pennsylv Gazette of Sept 16, 1742 gives change
of exchange value of currency + coin.
The merchants agreed to take Spanish ~~piastres~~
dollar for 75¢ and other coins proportionately.

Exchange Values in Pa

Colonial Records of Pennsylvania, Vol. V p 363

Minutes of ~~the~~ Provincial Council of Pennsylvania
for Nov 23, 1739 at Phila

Year	Gold per oz	Silver per oz.
1700-9	£ 7	9 sh x
1709-1720	£ 5 10	6 sh 10 1/2
1720-1723	£ 5 10	7 sh 6 d
1723-1726	£ 6 6 sh 6	8 sh 3 d
1726-1730	£ 6 3 sh 9	8 sh 1 d
1730-1738	£ 6 9 sh 3	8 sh 9 d
1739	£ 6 9 3	8 sh 6 1/2

this report is preceded by a
report of the history of Penn
paper currency beginning in 1723
up to 1739 (p 361-3)

This was in answer to a general
request of all colonies to furnish
information to the ~~Parliament~~ ^{Parliament} and
was presented with all answers to
House of Lords in England on March 28, 1740
with reports from

New York	Maryland
New Jersey	Barbadoes
Mass Bay	Bermuda
N. H.	
Pas.	South Carolina (arrived late)
Delaware	
Antigua	
St Christopher	
Montserrat	

See N.S. Archives
First Series Vol VI p. 80
B.P.R.O. B.T. Abolitions General No 36 G 245

Pa Archives

First Series

Vol IX p 279

Letter from Council of Pa to V. P. Bryan
dated July 14, 1781

Sir:

The Council having received information
of a new species of villainy going forward in this
city, by means of a base metal in the form
of the English half ~~p~~ pence, request you will
enquire into this abuse. Christopher Ladsing
and Francis Wall can give you the necessary
information in the case

I am etc

T. M.
Tyrus Matlack
(~~Thomas Matlack~~)

~~For the~~ Secy of Council

Sec. Parliament of Council

Colonial Records

Vol XIII p 4

June 18
6/1741 proclamation of Mayor of
Phila about English $\frac{1}{2}$ d

See for colonial

the papers

See Crosby p 169-70

1741
12
1749
see Chronicles of Pa
p 673
~~1741~~

Library Co of Phila
~~now~~ (Free Library of Phila)

Engl #842

Broadside Phila 1343
desphia

~~Print~~ Dick (pseudonym)

"Whereas great quantities of English
copper halfpence have been lately
imported into the Province of the Massachusetts

Signed in behalf of Thousands
paid out at 1d etc

not in Lib of Cong
#51726

Charles Evans
American Bibliography

Issues ~~of~~ the Pa
Press by Heldeburn
Vol I p189.

.....

Printed by William Bradford

Merc Lib

Mass Hist Soc Collections 3rd Series Vol VII p 282
(Boston 1838)

Old American Coins

by Dr. James Meade
of Phila

December 1787 Conn Cent

"This is the old farthing of our boyhood"

Re Journ + Paul Advertiser

June 4, 1783

Haym Salomons

General of Finance ~~to the~~ ^{Bryher} Office of Finance & the Consul
He buys and sells
loan office certificates, Continental
and State Money, of this or any other State

Aug 9, 1783 Cty notes of US Gov

Pa

For details as
to charters +
right to coin
see article on
Md file

$$\begin{array}{r} 200 \\ 210 \\ \hline 1514 \\ 10096 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \hline 10016 \\ 1008 \\ \hline 160 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 90.1 \end{array}$$

Pa Petition to coin copper

filed 4/5/86 in Pa (C. p. 174)

Set out ^{in full} ~~petition~~ on Crosby

Penn

Laws of Com of Pa (1700-1781) p 477

pub 1797

ctf of gold + silver coin death

passing ctf

ears of, whipped, pillory
passed Feb 21, 1767

Pennsylvania

By proclamation of 7/14/81 tax collectors ^{were} prohibited
from taking lightweight copper coins and ^{the} public ^{was} urged to re-
ject them.

Counterfeiting in
Colonial Pennsylvania
Scott

p. 9

p. 86

John Beale Bordley

(moved to Phila in 1791)

was from Maryland

by land on the ~~land~~ ^{and came from}

~~land~~ ⁱⁿ ~~Phila~~ ^{after} ~~is~~
named a ~~difficult~~ ¹⁷⁷⁶

Pa. Mag. of Hist. & Biography

Vol LXVI p. 414

p. 410-415

this

Confirms his authorship of

"On Monies, Coins, Weights & Measures."

6 at 36

On Monies, Coins, Weights and Measures,
proposed for the United States of America
By John Beale Bordley (1727-1804)

Philadelphia, Printed by Daniel Humphreys, in Front Street
near the Drawbridge. 1789

p. 12

COPPER COINS

A TREATISE on copper coin, as far as I know, is a new thing. There are reasons why these coins ought to be limited in their power. If they were to have the power to sink debts, as gold and silver have, they would be used vexatiously; and that would affect credits. Even if the forcing them in payments should be confined to 5 per cent. of debts, or be at all allowed of, it would have that tendency: and a creditor receiving a debt of 10,000 dollars, each cent thereof weighing 140 grains, at 5 per centum, would be burdened with 500 dollars worth, that is 50,000 pieces of copper of the weight of 1000 avoirdupois pounds; which selling as old copper, although it be at 20 cents a pound, would make a loss of 20,000 cents on his whole claim; and moreover would burden him with cartage, storage, and expences of sales; so that near 3 per cent. of his debt would be lost: which would affect commerce, especially with foreigners. An ordinance of the late Congress, enacts that the treasury, and of I rightly understand it, the proprietors of bullion carried to the mint, shall be paid 5 per cent. of their claims in copper cents. Ought those who carry bullion to the mint, to be burdened with inconvenience?

It is said, the late Congress contracted for copper, to be coined at ~~the mint~~ their mint and issued as above; and their ordinance seems to intend that the public mint shall have the coining of copper cents. It is proper it should be so, exclusively. Having found from the report of ~~a~~ a committee of the General Assembly of New-York, in 1787, that the best red copper in ~~the~~ sheets costs, at the factories in England, 11d. sterling a pound; or which they say the charges are 20 to 25 per cent. and that copper in mass, or old copper to be melted into ingots and drawn into sheets in the plating mills costs 9d sterling — charges included, I thereon make an estimate of the cost in coining copper cents; of 50 to the pound of copper, for a dollar worth 50d. sterling, thus: for a pound of copper, 24 cents; coining 12 cents; together 36 cents, the cost. The pound of copper so coined passes for 50 cents. — The ordinance of the late Congress says, $2\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. of copper shall be coined into 100 cents, (for a dollar of the value of $52d.\frac{46}{100}$ sterling value) at which rate each cent weighs $157\frac{1}{2}$ grains. The old English halfpennies, I suspect, weigh about 166 grains. I have one which weighs 156 grains and appears to be

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true Tower coin, such as were not uncommon ~~in~~ fifty years since; it is, however, so worn that the impressions are nearly lost: it therefore may be presumed that it weighed 8 or 10 grains more when new: the Britannia side is quite smooth - the other side faintly shews the impression of a head or heads in the manner of a William and Mary halfpence. The New-York committee further report, that 48 genuine British halfpence, when new, weight ~~1~~ 1 lb. avoirdupois, each piece 145 grains; 60 Birmingham coppers, are 1 lb. or 116½ grains each; and 46 $\frac{4}{10}$ genuine Jersey coppers are 1 lb. or 151 grains, each.*

The thought entertained by some of making the copper cent the of intrinsic value, is alarming; as it threatens a design to ~~force a~~ enforce a base and cumbersome metal in discharge of debts. the copper cent in that case must be 2½ times as large as is proposed at present, or 350 grains. Why increase an odium, or overbusily adventure on a hazardous innovation in a delicate affair?

Copper coin from the baseness of its metal, is not proper for a money to be forced on creditors. It is to be considered merely as a convenient substitute in the closing a payment, for want of silver coin small enough for minute fractional purposes: as such it is voluntarily received. Hucksters choose to receive it, as do others, occasionally, in small sums as is convenient to them. There would be no need of copper coins, were it not that cents and pence would be in too small pieces, for preservation, when in silver; wherefore the base and bulky metal was introduced, merely for small change. If, however it shall be thought proper to give to copper any force, - which it is wished may be never attempted, it ought to be, if possible, without injury or alarm to creditors.

Forced payments in copper may in that case be limited to 5 or at most 9 cents on the close of full payments, large or small: on the payment of 10,000 dollars, no more to be forced on the creditor than ~~in~~ a case of the least sum; because there is true and honest money in gold and silver of standard intrinsic value as low as ten or 5 cents, and the coppers are no further useful than for closing the fractional balance. If the necessity of a copper coinage can be avoided, it may be considered how far it would answer to coin cents in pieces of silver, whose periphery

is enlarged by forming them into a sort of rings with milled edges or coined surfaces: or rather the composition called billon may be coined, solid as are common copper halfpence: it is more valuable than copper alone, being of copper and silver, yet bulky enough to be easily preserved. A billon-cent of a 50d. dollar, half copper and half silver, which is the exact mint alloy for fine gold would be near as large as a quarter of a Spanish dollar. But copper cents, the size, very nearly of an English halfpenny, with its division into half pieces of 5 mills, are preferable to billon cents, and to small rings worth a cent each, as these would be too slender, the half cent in copper would be about the size of a farthing English.

On the whole of what I can collect concerning copper coins, it seems, they do not pass so much because of their small intrinsic worth, as by common consent, induced by a degree of necessity, merely as they are tokens for fractional sums which cannot be well issued in real money of the precious metals. This inference is countenanced by the considerable deviations in their weights, when issued even by the authority of nations tenacious of their character. English halfpennies of pure copper have been issued from the English mint of the contents of 156 ~~grains~~ of not 166, down to 146 grains, as they now are and have been upwards of sixty years: and base copper issued by private coiners light as 116 grains, by consent, have passed currently as the best, to a vast amount, and great loss of the community. The quantity of metal appointed by public authority to be contained in copper coins, being a good deal arbitrary, the American States may have their cent coin, of fine copper, that shall nearly have the weight of a British halfpenny: The British halfpenny weighs 146 grains of fine copper. Two pounds of copper will give 100 cents, each weighing 140 grains.

Two pounds of copper will give 100 cents, each weighing 140 grains. The cents, for a device, may have a man, on one side of them, erect, comfortably clothed, and holding a spade in his hand: ready — Fro. Indust. Cents beco. Eag. — On the reverse, of this base coin — a coin that cannot well be deemed money, instead of the eagle let there be, on the margin of the cent, this reading: — "United States of America" — and in the middle of the piece read — "Cent." There will be a fair blank between the readings: which may be lightly adorned or left blank, or crowded in Gothic taste — if it be the taste. B.

* The undermentioned copper coins, weigh as follows:

	A. D.	Gra.
Produit des mines de France	1727	- 182
Liard de France	1698	- 54
Virginia halfpenny	1773	- 120
U. S.	1783	- 145
$\frac{1}{4}$ Stuber	1764	- 38
+ Spanish milled piece	1774	- 174
English halfpenny, worn smooth		- 156
± Ditto, new and bright, never circulated	1729	- 146
Eight Birmingham coppers, average		- 116

+ Quere, whether this piece is of the composition called billon?

± This is from a barrel of halfpence imported by the late Mr. Bennet of Wye, from England, above 40 years ago; and I am ~~informed~~ favoured with it by his executor

|| The fairest sort of Birmingham coppers that are now in circulation. — the coined impressions are good

and plain. Two of them shew partial marks of sand: — therefore I presume, they are first cast into blanks of the proper size, and then coined; which saves expense of rolling the copper into plates, cutting them, &c.